

Al Fajr reporter is missing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinian journalists said on Monday they feared that a colleague missing in the occupied West Bank for the past 11 days may have been harmed by Israeli settlers. The Palestinian Journalists Association told reporters it had notified the police of the disappearance of Hassan Abdul Halim, a reporter for Al Fajr newspaper who was last seen leaving for an assignment in Hebron. Israeli authorities said they knew nothing of his whereabouts. Association President Radwan Abu Ayyash said Israel had intensified action against the Arab media in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. Five Palestinian journalists had been put under "administrative detention" and a further three had been confined to their home towns in recent months, he said. Officials this month closed a five-month old Palestinian weekly Al Dharb, on grounds that it was run by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

Jordan-Syria talks resume Sunday

BAHRAIN (R) — Jordan and Syria will resume reconciliation talks on Sunday in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said Monday. The talks between Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Syrian Premier Abdul Raouf Al Kasm, sponsored by the Arab League, will be attended by Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, the agency said. After the first round of talks in Jeddah last month, the Saudi newspaper As Sharq Al Awsat said Mr. Rifai and Mr. Kasm agreed to expand bilateral trade and stop media attacks as a first step towards improving relations. Prince Abdullah is chairman of a committee set up by an Arab summit meeting in Morocco in August to mediate between Jordan and Syria, as well as between Iraq and Syria. The committee, which also includes Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibi and Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali, has visited Damascus, Amman and Baghdad.

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Riyadh 'favours' GCC-Soviet ties

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti newspaper said on Monday Saudi Arabia had given the green light to its allies in the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to establish ties with the Soviet Union. A leading article in Al Watan, written by chief editor Jassem Al Mutawa, also said Riyadh's own relations with Moscow were expected to improve considerably within the next few days. Oman announced last month that it had decided to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Among other members of the GCC — Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — only Kuwait has official ties with Moscow.

Oteiba in Syria with message for Assad

DAMASCUS (AP) — United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteiba arrived Monday carrying a message from President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan for Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, the Syrian News Agency reported. It was the second message from an Arab Gulf leader to the Syrian president in three days. On Saturday, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Twejari, the deputy commander of the Saudi Arabian National Guard, delivered a letter to Mr. Assad from King Fahd. Informal sources said the visits and messages are part of preparations to convene an Arab League summit conference in Saudi Arabia next month.

Socialist International opens meeting today

VIENNA (R) — Members of Socialist, Labour and Social Democratic parties from nearly 50 countries are expected to call for disarmament when they meet in Vienna this week. British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres are among those attending the meeting of the Socialist International (SI).

Shultz, NATO ministers meet today

BRUSSELS (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz meets Tuesday with NATO foreign ministers to discuss the new Soviet arms reduction proposal and the approaching superpower summit. Mr. Shultz also was expected to hold separate talks with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti on the diplomatic row triggered by Italy's release of a top PLO official sought by the United States. Arrangements were still being worked on Monday, but the Shultz-Andreotti meeting was expected to be extremely short.

Pakistan denies shelling Afghan town

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan on Monday denied an Afghan charge that it shelled the Barikot garrison town in eastern Afghanistan killing 14 civilians and wounding 11. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry summoned the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad and demanded Kabul "desist from making such malicious allegations," a government statement said.

Britain calls off meeting with joint team; Jordan blames PLO delegate for cancellation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter
with agency dispatches

LONDON — Britain on Monday called off what could have been a landmark meeting with two senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials, saying that they reneged on a prior agreement to renounce violence and endorse a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question. In Amman, an official statement explained that the meeting collapsed when one of the two Palestinian officials refused to endorse an agreed-upon statement to be issued following the scheduled meeting between the British foreign secretary and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The two Palestinian officials, Bishop Elias Khouri and Mohammad Milhem, both members of the PLO Executive Committee, were part of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation invited to London by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during her

Following is a translation of the official statement issued in Amman on Monday on the British decision to cancel a scheduled meeting with two senior members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) earlier in the day in London:

The invitation extended by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to visit London for talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe was based on an agreement that following the talks the joint team will issue a statement including the points stressed by Mrs. Thatcher during her press conference on Sept. 20, 1985 in Aqaba.

An agreement on the contents of the statement was made with the British side after consultations among the members of the joint delegation. And the joint delegation left for London on this basis, but, unfortunately, one of the two Palestinian delegates expressed unwillingness to accept the statement in the form that was originally agreed on.

Therefore the British Foreign Office secretary decided that under these circumstances it was not possible to hold the meeting as scheduled.

Sir Geoffrey received on Monday afternoon Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and the Jordanian ambassador to Britain.

visit to Jordan last month. The delegation was expected to discuss with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO in an effort to break the current stalemate in the Middle East peace process. But a few hours before the scheduled meeting on Monday Mr. Howe cancelled it and later announced that Mrs. Thatcher's invitation was made on

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U.S. seeks to play down rift with Italy over Abu Abbas

ROME (Agencies) — U.S. Ambassador Maxwell Rabb called on Italian Deputy Prime Minister Arnaldo Forlani on Monday, describing him as his "old friend," in an apparent move to scale down the dispute with Italy over the Achille Lauro liner hijacking.

It was Mr. Rabb's fourth meeting with an Italian government leader since the drama began a week ago.

On Sunday he told Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti the U.S. found it "incomprehensible" that Italy had freed a Palestinian leader whom Washington accuses of masterminding the hijack.

After seeing Mr. Forlani for two hours on Monday, Mr. Rabb said: "It was merely a visit between two old friends on an important matter. No demands were made on me and I made none on him."

"We said we would do everything possible to maintain and keep the remarkable relationship between the United States and Italy that has been the case. I hope and believe we will be able to make progress towards that," he told reporters.

U.S. fighters forced a plane carrying four Palestinian hijackers of the Achille Lauro and two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials to land in Sicily last Friday.

Italian authorities arrested the hijackers but allowed the two other men to fly to Yugoslavia, ignoring a U.S. extradition request for one of them, Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas).

The U.S. wants to extradite the four hijackers because it alleges an American citizen, 69-year-old Leon Klinghoffer, was killed in the hijack. But Italy says it will try them.

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New threats prompt beefed-up security for Soviets in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese army paratroopers beefed up leftist militiamen guarding the Soviet embassy on Monday after anonymous telephone caller claiming to speak for extremists threatened to blow it up and kill three Soviet hostages.

The callers, purporting to speak for the Islamic Liberation Organisation, said in pre-dawn messages to Beirut radio stations that the Soviets have until midnight Wednesday (2100 GMT) to close down the embassy.

"We shall kill the hostages and totally demolish the embassy unless Moscow hurries to close it down within 48 hours," one caller was quoted as saying by the Voice of Lebanon radio and the Voice of

the Nation. The Islamic Liberation Organisation is believed to be made up of Sunni Muslim extremists.

Another caller telephoned Voice of Lebanon at 2:30 p.m. and warned that the hostages would be killed.

"In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate," the caller was quoted as saying. "We shall execute the three Soviet hostages within half an hour because the demands of the organisation have not been met."

But police said hours after the deadline passed that no corpses had been found in west Beirut. There was no way of authenticating any of the calls. Voice of Lebanon also said there was no

Abbas said to have left Belgrade

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas), who Washington says masterminded the Achille Lauro hijacking, left Yugoslavia early Monday, frustrating U.S. efforts to arrest him and sparing Belgrade embarrassment in its relations with the Arab World and the United States.

"Comrade Abu Abbas has left Yugoslavia," a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) spokesman told Reuters but would not say where to or how.

Abu Abbas flew here on Saturday from Italy.

In Tunis, the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), which is led by Abu Abbas, refused to confirm or deny whether Abu Abbas had left Belgrade, citing security reasons.

An official of the front said that his movements were secret, because of the general situation and the U.S. demand that he be extradited over the Achille Lauro hijack.

Abu Abbas' departure saved non-aligned communist Yugoslavia's standing in the Arab World and its ties with Washington, from being damaged, Western diplomats said.

Abu Abbas had sought sanctuary in Yugoslavia on Saturday after Italy freed him.

Vowing to track him down wherever he went, the United States formally asked Belgrade to arrest him pending an application for his extradition.

But Yugoslav officials indicated on Sunday that Belgrade's support for the Arab cause and recognition of the PLO prevented it from complying. The official news agency Tanjug announced Abu Abbas' departure without comment on Monday.

In Washington, White House spokesman Michael Gueist said Monday President Ronald Reagan's administration has been receiving conflicting reports on the whereabouts of Abu Abbas.

Guest said the administration had no independent confirmation. Abu Abbas had left Yugoslavia, Nor, he said, has the United States received a reply to its request for the Palestinian leader's extradition (Meese still wants to bring Abu Abbas to trial, page 2).

Vidoje Zarkovic, president of Yugoslavia's ruling Communist Party, told reporters Monday that Yugoslavia will deal with the U.S.

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Crewman reportedly saw hostage killing; Jadhafi criticises seizure of ship, page 2



Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali is received at the British Foreign Office by Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe when Mr. Majali, accompanied by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Ambassador Nabih Al Nimr, arrived for talks on Monday (Photo from JTV)

Sponsors drop bid to invite Arafat to U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — A move to have the U.N. General Assembly invite Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to its 40th anniversary commemoration was dropped on Monday.

After intensive consultations with the six non-aligned states sponsoring the move, the president, Jaime de Pinies of Spain, announced that they would not press their resolution to invite Mr. Arafat to the U.N.

The United States had threatened to review its participation in the 10-day U.N. birthday celebrations that began on Monday if the General Assembly agreed to invite Mr. Arafat to take part.

President Reagan would certainly not have attended, aides said.

Mr. Reagan is due here for a two-day visit next week. As recently as last Friday the PLO envoy to the U.N., Zehdi Labib Terzi, told reporters there was no way to stop the invitation being offered and that his main task was finding a secure hotel for Mr. Arafat.

But a vote on the issue that had been expected that day was deferred and Mr. De Pinies stepped up his efforts over the weekend to have the controversial question sidestepped, aides said.

When the General Assembly began business on Monday, he made an opening statement with the agreement of the sponsors of the resolution to invite Mr. Arafat — India, Iraq, Kuwait, Nigeria, Senegal and Yemen.

He mentioned a resolution adopted by the General Assembly

on Sept. 22, 1974, by which the PLO was invited to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly, "in the capacity of observer," and a resolution of Dec. 20, 1976, by which the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) was invited to participate similarly.

The resolution on Mr. Arafat also proposed inviting Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO, which also maintains an observer mission at the United Nations.

Mr. De Pinies, referring to preparations for the U.N. 40th anniversary that were drafted by a special committee and approved by the General Assembly at the beginning of the session last month, said in his statement: "The assembly acted without prejudice to the provisions of the two resolutions."

The assembly did not intend to derogate in any way from those resolutions, "which continue to remain valid and applicable in every respect," he said.

"In the circumstances, I understand that the co-sponsors do not intend to press their resolution to a vote."

The United States and its supporters were seeking ways to keep the resolution to invite Mr. Arafat from coming to a vote.

Earlier, Indian Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan, under pressure to drop the resolution, said the sponsors and Mr. De Pinies were negotiating.

If it had come to a vote, the resolution was expected to receive the necessary two-thirds majority from the 159-member assembly, which overwhelmingly supports the PLO cause.

Peres plans 'interim accord' on West Bank

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres will present a proposal to the Reagan administration for an interim agreement with Jordan for "autonomy" for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, a newspaper reported Monday.

The plan, which would be implemented with Jordan's cooperation, could go into effect within a few months for the 750,000 Palestinians in the West Bank," reported the daily Davar, a newspaper closely affiliated with Peres' Labour Party.

Davar did not give any details and did not mention the occupied Gaza Strip. But Peres in the past has said he would take the "autonomy" plan outlined in the 1979 U.S.-backed Israel-Egypt treaty to the bargaining table with Jordan as Israel's opening position.

Peres has been under pressure from the United States to "improve the quality of life" in the West Bank, and has sought, with not much results, to ease monetary and censorship restrictions on the Palestinians.

The premier promised the cabinet on Sunday that his peace proposals during his trip to Washington this week will not deviate from the coalition agreement between the Labour Party and its major partner, the Likud bloc.

Likud opposes "territorial compromise" to settle the Palestinian problem while Labour

has expressed willingness to consider a formula of "land for peace."

Peres and his aides think there is a "good chance the Americans will accept the interim plan," said Davar.

The premier called on visiting Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert last week to host Middle East peace talks in Geneva. But he rejected calls by Jordan and other countries to hold the talks within the framework of an international conference to include the Soviet Union and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Peres insists that the Soviets first renew diplomatic ties with Israel before they can join peace talks. The Soviet Union ended ties with Israel in 1967.

Peres will also tell U.S. officials that Israel wants direct peace talks between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but without the participation of the PLO, Israel Radio reported.

It was unclear whether the interim plan would be the first stage in an overall peace negotiations and whether it would be discussed within the framework of a joint delegation.

Peres has said Israel will be willing to negotiate with "moderate" Palestinians from the occupied territories. Peres will tell his hosts that the PLO should be ruled out completely, especially in light of the Achille Lauro hijacking.

Mubarak demands apology from Reagan

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak, still angry over the U.S. seizure of an Egyptian plane with four Palestinian hijackers, demanded on Monday an apology from President Ronald Reagan "for all Egyptians."

Mr. Mubarak, in a clear snub to President Reagan, told reporters he had not even read a message from Mr. Reagan delivered Sunday by U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Veliotis because, "I am very upset."

An American official, who refused to be identified, told the Associated Press the Reagan letter "indicates a level of understanding" of the Egyptian position in trying to deliver the hijackers of the Italian ship Achille Lauro to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for trial.

The Egyptian Boeing 737 carrying the hijackers was hijacked Friday by U.S. warjets from the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga to Sicily where they were arrested by Italian authorities.

Mr. Mubarak, however, expressed hope that the "cloud" in U.S.-Egyptian relations will pass.

Mr. Mubarak was asked by reporters whether he had received any official explanation from the White House or the State Department for the American action, which he earlier termed "an act of piracy."

"I didn't receive any convenient apology," Mr. Mubarak said.

"This is needed for all Egyptians. All Egyptians should know that. There shouldn't be a personal apology in this matter."

A U.S. official, speaking to reporters on Sunday on condition he not be further identified, said the Reagan message was a "very good first step" towards repairing the damage done to U.S.-Egyptian relations by the hijacking of the plane.

"Till now, I didn't read this messages," Mr. Mubarak said. "Frankly, I am very upset."

Asked about prospects for improved U.S.-Egyptian ties, Mr.

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Cairo newspaper blasts U.S.; Weinberger, Reagan differed over hijack, page 2

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Iraq vows to destroy new oil terminal planned by Iran

KUWAIT (AP) — Iraqi Defence Minister Lt.-Gen. Adnan Khairallah was quoted Monday as vowing that Iraq will destroy oil installations that Iran plans to set up at its southern port of Bandar Abbas to replace the damaged Kharg terminal in the north.

"Iran's economic backbone has been smashed at Kharg... and the Iranians now plan to build a pipeline along the coast to Bandar Abbas," he told Ahmad Jarallah, the editor in chief of the newspaper Al-Sayassah.

"They think Iraq cannot reach it without travelling the Gulf air space, but they have to know their disaster will be more serious at Bandar Abbas," Gen. Khairallah warned.

In August, Iraq began sending its warplanes to raid the Iranian oil terminal at Kharg in an attempt to pressure the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to accept a peaceful end to the five-year-old Gulf war.

The terminal, in the north east of the Gulf waterway, accounts for 90 per cent of Iran's oil exports.

Gulf oil and shipping executives, estimated that the raids halved the Iranian oil export capacity which ran at 1.5 million barrels per day before the attacks started.

These executives reported that Iran was speeding up plans for substitute oil export outlets, such

as single buoy moorings at Gen-aveh which is north east of Kharg, or developing the Lavan terminal along the central part of the Iranian Gulf coast.

Lavan is about 480 kilometres south of Kharg, and Bandar Abbas is about 320 kilometres farther south, overlooking the Strait of Hormuz, the southern gateway of the waterway.

"We know that the Iranians are planning a 400-kilometre-long pipeline to develop a terminal near Lavan, but Bandar Abbas seems to be a bit too far," said a Bahrain-based oil executive who refused to be further identified. However, he added, the Iranians were "shopping on the market for substantial amounts of pipes."

South west of Lavan is the Sirri makeshift terminal, where customers have been lifting crude oil that Iran has been shuttling on chartered tankers from Kharg.

The terminal was developed a few months after Iraq imposed its blockade on shipping to and from Kharg in February 1984.

Sirri, and the outlets that could

he set up at Lavan or Bandar Abbas, would be out of range of Iraqi warplanes, unless the Iraqis develop midair jet-refuelling capacity or use third party airfields on their missions, a Gulf-based shipping executive said.

Iraq has vowed that if the Iraqis succeed in completely halting its oil exports, then "not a drop of oil" from the other Arab Gulf countries would be exported and the Strait of Hormuz would be blocked.

Gen. Khairallah, who is also the commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, belittled the Iranian threats to close the Hormuz, saying Iraq cannot take such a step because "it will be counter-productive to the Iranians themselves."

Gen. Khairallah said that "the Iranians will be the losers," if they attempt to block the Hormuz.

"Even if the Iranians managed to do so by sinking ships or deploying naval mines there, can they bear the foreseeable consequences of creating an international problem as a result of stopping oil supplies to industrialised nations?" he asked.

The United States and its Western allies are pledged to maintain freedom of navigation in the Strait.

Iraq, Gen. Khairallah continued, had "lost the military option a year ago."

"They are really at an impasse," he went on. "After five years of fighting, the Iranian marines have nothing to say to their people to whom they promise to realise victory over Iraq."

He estimated that between 700,000 to one million Iranians have been killed and about three million were injured in the hostilities.

Gen. Khairallah said Saudi and Kuwaiti military capabilities were sufficient to repulse an Iranian air attack on the two countries. "They only have to assume vigilance," he said.

He accused Syria and Libya — the only two Arab countries who have sided with Iran in the war — of supplying Iran with Soviet-made arms and said 80 per cent of arms used by Iran are made in Eastern Bloc states. He also mentioned North Korea as an arms supplier of Iran.

He disclosed that Iraqi planes "destroyed" an Iranian-bound Libyan arms shipment containing 150 tanks in one of the Iraqi jet raids on ships plying Iranian ports. But he did not say when or where that attack had occurred.

A Dubai-based marine salvage executive said there were no records of a ship carrying military supplies having been attacked in the Gulf.

Qadhafi criticises seizure of Italian ship

MOSCOW (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said Monday the whole world condemned the seizure of an Egyptian aircraft last week by the United States, but he also criticised the hijacking of the Italian liner Achille Lauro.

Col. Qadhafi spoke at a news conference at the end of a visit to Moscow that included talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. His views on some issues differed from those of the Kremlin.

He said the U.N. Security Council should have been called to condemn as a "wanton" act last week's U.S. operation against the Egyptian aircraft.

"The whole world has expressed its support for the Egyptian people and condemned the American act," he said.

Asked about the hijacking of the Achille Lauro, Col. Qadhafi said "these actions in themselves can only be condemned but one can always see reasons behind such actions."

The Kremlin, which is handling its own hostage crisis in Lebanon, has not directly commented on the U.S. action, although state media have been reporting only condemnation from abroad.

A Soviet diplomat was murdered earlier this month in Beirut and three embassy staff are still held by Muslim captors. The state news agency TASS said Sunday Israel and the United States were behind the action.

Col. Qadhafi repeated that view and said he had set up a joint commission with Syria to contact religious organisations in Lebanon "with a view to saving the Soviet diplomats."

On the Middle East and the Gulf war, however, Col. Qadhafi laid down different positions from those of Moscow.

At a banquet for Col. Qadhafi on Friday Mr. Gorbachev called for the Arabs to join in backing an international conference that would include Israel to seek a Middle East peace settlement.

Col. Qadhafi said Monday: "It is impossible to establish peace there while Israel continues to exist." He said he respected the Soviet proposal but Libya also believed that either the United Nations should also hold negotiations "or Palestine should be directly liberated."

Asked about the Gulf war, Col. Qadhafi said: "The Iranians believe they can reach a final result much more easily now. They don't want to go back."

Moscow expresses public neutrality over the conflict, but supplies weapons to Iraq.

Libya's backing for Iran, which includes supplying Soviet-made weapons, is believed by diplomats to have caused friction in Col. Qadhafi's talks with Mr. Gorbachev.

Col. Qadhafi said relations had reached a high level, but he declined to discuss a friendship treaty which Moscow and Tripoli promised in 1983 but which has not materialised.

Cairo newspaper accuses U.S. of planning to embarrass Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak's party paper in its early Monday edition charged that the interception of an Egyptian plane by U.S. jet fighters was part of a U.S. plan to embarrass Egypt and dissuade it from its Middle East peace efforts.

In its main editorial, Mayo, organ of the ruling National Democratic Party, also predicted further deterioration in American-Egyptian relations following Friday's incident when U.S. F-14 jets intercepted an Egyptian plane carrying the Palestinian hijackers of the Achille Lauro and forced it to land in Sicily.

The four Palestinians have been arrested and charged with murder and hijacking in Italy and the Egyptian plane returned to Cairo on Sunday.

The Mayo editorial said that the United States was unhappy with Mr. Mubarak's continuous efforts to start a dialogue between the concerned parties to reach a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis.

"This Egyptian position found neither support nor understanding from the United States. From there, the U.S. administration started its new plan to embarrass Egypt and force it to reconsider its position, commitments and plans," the editorial said.

"The same day that Mubarak arrived home (from a visit to the United States last month), Israel launched its criminal raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis... all the world condemned this raid except the United States," the editorial said.

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Zimbabwe's leading daily newspaper, the Herald, Monday accused the United States of committing "an act of the very terrorism that it has always denounced" by forcing an Egyptian plane.

"One would have thought the fact that the Palestine Liberation Organisation had intervened to ensure a peaceful ending to the hijacking of the Italian cruise liner would have been enough to introduce an agreeable element leading to the deescalation of the destabilising violence in the region," the paper said in an editorial.

"But by itself hijacking the Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers... the U.S. has committed an act of the very terrorism that it has always denounced," it said.

New Zealand said on Monday the U.S. action was of "somewhat dubious" legality.

Acting Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer stressed, however, that he was not condemning the action that was taken after U.S. officials learned an American passenger had been killed.

"The legality of the intervention by international law would seem to me to be somewhat dubious," Mr. Palmer told reporters. "One's view of the American action would need to be predicted on whether it was an action they were entitled to take."

In continuing international reaction to the U.S. hijack of the Egyptian plane, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said the hijacking of the Achille Lauro and the alleged killing of an American passenger did not justify the forced diversion to Sicily of the airliner carrying the hijackers.

"I do not think one wrong can justify another," Mr. Gandhi told the Press Trust of India shortly

after leaving India for London.

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Ankara calls on Sofia to end 'unjust practices' against Turkish minority

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Turkey called on Bulgaria Monday to end a violent campaign aimed at assimilating its Turkish minority and said it was ready to discuss the issue with the Sofia government.

But in a speech to UNESCO's general conference, Turkish Education, Youth and Sports Minister Metin Emiroglu said Bulgaria had refused all offers of negotiation.

He said Turkey regretted having to bring the attention of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to the problem and stressed that its concern was primarily humanitarian.

"As is well known by world public opinion," Mr. Emiroglu said, "the members of the Muslim-Turkish minority in Bulgaria have been deprived of their rights to religious practice in their own faith and of their right to communicate with relatives in Turkey."

He said in 1950 there were 1,119 Turkish schools in Bulgaria, 100,376 Turkish students and 3,031 Turkish teachers.

"Today there is not a single Turkish school left," Mr. Emiroglu said, speaking in Turkish to the 2,000 delegates in the conference hall, including high level representatives of the host government. "Turks are not even permitted to speak Turkish among themselves in public places."

Ethnic Turks constitute Bulgaria's largest minority with a population of 905,000, or 10 per cent of the total.

Earlier this year, army and police forces waged a violent campaign to force the Turks to take Bulgarian names, according to diplomatic sources in Sofia. They said since the effort began two years ago, more than 100 people have been killed.

Bulgaria has denied that minority Turks have been forced to adopt Bulgarian names or bad died in fighting with government militiamen.

Referring to this campaign, Mr. Emiroglu said, "Muslim Turkish names have been changed into Bulgarian names. This operation, unfortunately, was carried out from time to time by violent methods."

In this manner a national minority which constitutes more than 10 per cent of the population has been cut off from its cultural background."

He said Turkey was already on the record as being willing to receive the Bulgarian Turks if necessary.

Mr. Emiroglu said UNESCO had a responsibility to keep close track of the problems the Turkish minority is facing and look for solutions to these problems which concern human rights in the fields of education, science and culture.

Weinberger differed with Reagan over interception

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger reluctantly agreed to the U.S. interception of the Achille Lauro hijackers and told President Reagan at one point, "this will destroy our relations with Egypt."

The Newswatch said Mr. Weinberger called Mr. Reagan "repeatedly" to express reservations about the plan, which called for U.S. navy jets to intercept an Egyptian airliner carrying the hijackers and force it to Sicily.

Mr. Weinberger expressed the view that U.S. pilots might have to fly across the nose of the civilian jetliner, the report said, adding that Mr. Reagan insisted the operation go ahead so long as no innocent lives were put at risk.

The magazine also reported that when Mr. Reagan gave Mr. Weinberger the order to proceed from aboard Air Force One on Thursday, the president breeched security by using an "open line" because a scrambler on the presidential jet was broken.

The conversation was picked up by a barn radio operator. Newswatch reported.

The magazine said the major planner of the intercept operation was Marine Lt.-Col. Oliver North, whose role as White House liaison with Contra forces opposing Nicaraguan government has drawn criticism in Congress.

Mr. Abbas as we would any other fugitive."

Mr. Meese, the nation's top law enforcement officer, commented shortly after two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said in Yugoslavia that Mr. Abbas, the 38-year-old member of the PLO Executive Committee, had left that country. On Saturday, Italian officials allowed Mr. Abbas, taken into custody with the ship's four hijackers two days earlier, to leave on a flight to Yugoslavia.

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Meese still wants to bring Abbas to trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese said Monday that the United States still wants to bring to trial the Palestinian it accuses of planning the Achille Lauro hijacking, Mohammad Abbas, despite his release by the Italian government.

"We still want very much to apprehend him and bring him back to answer the charges against him in this country," Mr. Meese said on a television programme.

Mr. Meese, the nation's top law enforcement officer, commented shortly after two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said in Yugoslavia that Mr. Abbas, the 38-year-old member of the PLO Executive Committee, had left that country. On Saturday, Italian officials allowed Mr. Abbas, taken into custody with the ship's four hijackers two days earlier, to leave on a flight to Yugoslavia.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION		23:00
Tel: 773111-19		23:45
		23:57
		14:00
MAJIN CHANNEL		
17:00	Koran	
17:30	Cartoons	
17:50	Children Programmes	
18:10	Elevated Hour	
18:45	Just Our Luck	
19:00	Local Programme on Safety	
19:30	News Programme	
19:45	Tomorrow's Programmes	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Arabic Series	
21:25	Tomorrow's Programmes and varieties	
21:50	Arabic Series	
22:00	News in Arabic	
23:10	Series Contd.	
FOREIGN CHANNEL		
04:00	le jour du monde en 80 jours	
18:30	des chiffres de lettres	
19:00	News in French	
19:15	les amours des années folles	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Lucy Amara Show	
21:10	Lake House	
22:10	News in English	
22:15	Feature Film: City Panic — John Forsythe, Earl Holliman	
RADIO JORDAN		
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM		
& party on 95.60 KHz, SW		
774111-19		
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	News Desk	
08:00	Morning Show	
08:30	News Summary	
09:00	Morning Show Cont.	
10:00	News Summary	
10:30	Pop Session Cont.	
11:00	News Summary	
11:30	Pop Session Cont.	
12:00	Pop Session Cont.	
12:30	Pop Session Cont.	
13:00	Pop Session Cont.	
13:30	Pop Session Cont.	
14:00	Pop Session Cont.	
14:15	Instrumentals	
14:30	Country Music	
15:00	Concert Hour	
15:30	News Summary	
16:00	Pop Session Cont.	
16:30	Pop Session Cont.	
17:00	Old Favorites	
17:30	Science Report	
18:00	Pop Session	
18:30	News Summary	
19:00	Top Twenty	
19:30	News Summary	
20:00	Date with a Star	
20:30	Evening Show	
21:00	News Summary	
21:30	Evening Show Cont.	
22:00	News Summary	
22:30	Evening Show Cont.	
BBC WORLD		
693, 772		
06:00 evanlight		
06:45 Personal SD		
07:00 World News		
News Summary 07:15		
Book Choice 07:45		
08:00 News Summary		
World News 08:30		
Summary 09:30		
Network UK 10:00		
News Summary 10:30		
The Art of Persuasion 11:00		
News 11:00 Britain		
The World Today 11:30		
Look Ahead 12:00		
News Summary 12:30		
Clocks 13:00 World		
about Britain 13:30		
Composers 13:45		
News Summary 14:00		
International 14:15		
14:15 The UN		
14:45 Sports 15:00		
News 15:00 24 Hours		
15:30 News and		
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17:15 Only by		
17:30 News Summary		
State of the Vast		
Today 19:00 World		
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20:00 The Family		
Summary: Oxford		
Report 21:00 The		
News Summary 21:30		
21:45 News Summary		
22:30 The State		
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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS	BRITISH WEEK	VIDEO	CULTURAL CENTRES	MUSEUMS
09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00
13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00
17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00
21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00
01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00
05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00
09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00
13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00
17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00	17:00-20:00
21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00	21:00-24:00
01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00	01:00-04:00
05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00	05:00-08:00
09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00	09:00-12:00
13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00	13:00-16:00

Muasher, Egyptian delegation review bilateral trade protocol

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher Monday conferred with an Egyptian delegation from the state-owned Naser company for imports and exports.

The Egyptian delegation, led by Mr. Kamal Al Hilali, arrived in Amman Sunday for a visit and talks on trade issues. The delegation members will meet with government officials and businessmen to agree on products to be exchanged for Egyptian goods in implementation of bilateral trade protocols.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kana'an briefs Canadian, Lebanese envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an Monday conferred with the Canadian and Lebanese Ambassadors in Amman Gary Harman and Peter Ziyadeh in separate meetings. Dr. Kana'an briefed the two ambassadors on the current situation in the West Bank and Israel's arbitrary measures directed against Arab citizens in the occupied territories.

CAEU committee begins meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — A seven-member Arab committee set up by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) opened its meetings here Monday to discuss subjects pertaining to Arab industrial and agricultural integration. The committee, composed of Jordan, North and South Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Iraq and Sudan, will review a report by the CAEU general secretariat and will also prepare for a general meeting of Arab planning ministers.

Red Crescent team leaves for Geneva

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) will leave for Geneva Tuesday to take part in a meeting to be held by the International Red Crescent and Red Cross and due to open on Oct. 20. Dr. Muwaffaq Al Zoubi, who will lead the delegation, said that a meeting for Arab delegates will precede the conference to discuss the formation of an Arab relief committee and a pan-Arab fund to finance relief operations in the Arab World. Also on the agenda is the subject of establishing a centre in Jordan for training personnel in first aid operations.

Air transport discussions start today

AMMAN (Petra) — The fifth meeting of a technical committee formed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) is due to start in Amman Tuesday. Representatives of 38 airlines from Arab and foreign countries and the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) are expected to take part in the meeting.

Ramtha stages art exhibition

RAMTHA (Petra) — A three-day art exhibition displaying works by five Jordanian artists opened here Monday. Dr. Mahmoud Sakd, director of the Department of Fine Arts at Yarmouk University, opened the exhibition of 20 paintings depicting traditional art and landscapes. An audience of invited guests from the Irbid and Ramtha regions attended the opening ceremony.

Omari family win municipal elections

IRBID (J.T.) — Irbid Deputy Governor Bassam Al Hijazi Sunday announced the final results of Dair Yousef municipality council elections in which eight municipal council members were unanimously elected. According to a report in the local press, the municipality members are: Mohammad Ali Al Omari, Ahmad Salem Al Omari, Abdullah Mohammad Al Omari, Abdul Rahim Al Omari, Saleh Al Omari, Dr. Ali Al Omari, Ahmad Abdul Rahman Al Omari and Abdul Karim Al Omari.

Abbas said to have left Yugoslavia

(Continued from page 1)

request for extradition "in accordance with its legal system and on the basis of the assessment of relevant facts."

"On similar occasions, Yugoslavia has always taken such procedure and will do so this time as well," he said, adding that a formal announcement will be issued shortly.

Later on Monday, the U.S. State Department said it would be extremely upset and disappointed if Yugoslavia had allowed Abu Abbas to leave when it had asked officially for him to be detained.

A State Department spokesman said Washington was asking the Yugoslav government for confirmation or denial of a Reuters report from Belgrade that Abu Abbas had left the country.

"We, of course, would be extremely upset and disappointed if he has left Yugoslavia," the spokesman told reporters.

William Webster, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), said earlier Washington would continue pressing for Abu Abbas' arrest wherever he went.

"If in fact he has gone to another country, we will continue to pursue our rights through Interpol and other international organizations to enforce our criminal laws, which are entitled to respect by friendly nations elsewhere," Mr. Webster said on a television programme.

Some experts, who would not be identified, referred to Article 202 of Yugoslavia's Constitution, which provides for giving guarantees and political asylum to persons fighting for national liberation of their own countries.

A member of the PLO delegation in Belgrade, saying he spoke for Nimr Hamad, head of the mission, confirmed Abu Abbas' departure but refused to say where he went.

"I don't know why, don't know where, don't know how," said the young man at the mission, where

reporters had been called for a press conference that was cancelled.

He refused to give his name or answer questions, but added at one point:

"If the Americans would accept Abu Abbas as a representative of the PLO, he would go to the United States and explain the PLO position."

Abu Abbas arrived in Italy on Saturday on board an Egyptian airliner that U.S. fighter aircraft had intercepted and diverted while on its way to Tunisia carrying the four Achille Lauro hijackers from Egypt, where they had surrendered.

In an interview on Sunday by telephone from Belgrade with the American NBC network in Tunis, Abu Abbas denied that either he or PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had prior knowledge of the operation against the Achille Lauro.

In the telephone interview, he denied that anyone was killed on board the ship, which was hijacked in the Mediterranean last Monday.

"I did not know in advance of the operation and Arafat had no knowledge of it," Abu Abbas said in the interview, which was played back in the presence of other reporters and translated from Arabic by a PLO official in Tunis.

The PLF leader said the U.S. F-14s fired warning shots near the Egyptian plane carrying him, an aide and the four ship hijackers when the Boeing 737 was hijacked.

The shots were fired while the plane was over Greece and the fighter pilots ordered it to alter course, he said in the 40-minute NBC interview.

Abu Abbas said he was prepared to travel to the U.S. to explain the Achille Lauro hijack affair.

"I am prepared to go to the United States, given free passage by (President) Reagan and a guarantee of safety, in order to tell the American people what has happened," he said.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan (second right) Monday visits a community centre in Balqa region (Petra photo)

CSC, employment offices register 24,000 Jordanians as out of work

SALT (Petra) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) in Jordan has received job applications from 13,000 unemployed Jordanians and the Labour Ministry's employment offices around the country have an additional 11,000 applications for work, according to Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The minister said that his ministry is keen to find jobs for all able Jordanians and will not allow foreign workers to fill posts or take jobs which could be done by Jordanians.

Mr. Haj Hassan was speaking during an inspection tour of labour and employment offices and social development centres in the Balqa region.

At present, Jordan employs 155,000 foreign workers of whom 65,000 work at the construction sector, 23,000 in agriculture, 24,000 in public services and the

rest as domestic servants and in other jobs, the minister said.

'Shunning jobs'

Mr. Haj Hassan voiced his regret that Jordanians are shunning jobs related to farming and agriculture and tourism though he said that working in these fields could prove more lucrative and rewarding than other jobs.

"If unemployed people would accept jobs in the agricultural sector, Jordan would not be faced with any unemployment," the minister said at a meeting with Balqa Governor Mijhem Khreish and other local officials.

Mr. Khreish presented the minister with requests for developing agricultural, industrial and tourism sectors in the Balqa region and outlined the manpower required for these projects. Mr. Haj Hassan said that the

government gives due care to social welfare, especially to needy families, and will make proper allocations for social welfare in its general fiscal budget for 1986.

In cooperation with the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan and the Jueen Alia Social Welfare Fund, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development has prepared a draft project for establishing a national voluntary fund that will raise contributions for welfare projects in Jordan, the minister added.

He also announced that the ministry has allocated a 37 dunum area of land to GUVS for setting up an integrated home for old people.

Later, the minister called at the Rahmeh Community Development Centre at Allan, near Salt, and was briefed on its programmes and the services it offers to the public.

Council of churches delegation commends Jordanian-PLO peace efforts

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A delegation representing the World Council of Churches Monday left for Syria winding up their three-day visit to Jordan during which they met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and senior officials.

The delegation was briefed on the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's drive to Judaize the holy city of Jerusalem.

Bishop Michael Saba, one of the eight-member delegation, said before departure to Syria that the World Council of Churches sup-

ports the Jordanian-Palestinian Feb. 11 accord and he urged U.S. President Reagan to accept the list of Palestinian negotiators submitted by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Furthermore, the council is in favour of all Jordan-PLO efforts in the search for a durable peace. Bishop Saba told the Jordan Times.

During their visit to Jordan, the group which described themselves as a "Middle East task force" were met by Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib, Minister of Higher Education Nasseerdeen Al Assad, and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an.

They were briefed on the current situation in the Middle East including Israel's arbitrary and oppressive measures against Arab residents in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On the Palestinian side, the delegation met with PLO Deputy Commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) with whom they dis-

cussed the Palestinian question and PLO activities. Bishop Saba said.

Jordanian personalities including journalist and author Rami Khouri and president and chairman of Royal Jordanian Airlines, Alia, Mr. Ali Ghandour, also met the delegation and helped them get first-hand information on Jordan and the Middle East.

Egypt will be the last leg of the delegation's tour of the region after Damascus. They earlier visited the West Bank of Jordan.

The group consists of clergymen and women representing ecumenical Christian churches: the Presbyterian church, the Methodist church, the Church of Brethren, the Unitarian Church and the U.S. National Council of Churches.

The 'Middle East task force' is a Washington-based Christian inter-faith group, according to Bishop Saba who also said that it coordinates with U.S. administration and cabinet officials on issues relating to the Middle East.

New school uniforms for boys catch on slowly

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Following a decision taken by a cabinet commission early last year, school uniforms have been made available for all male students at primary and secondary schools in the Kingdom.

Dr. Hummed Barakat, the director of private education at the Ministry of Education, told the Jordan Times that the uniforms were distributed first in Amman, last February, then throughout the country at the beginning of the academic year, as previously scheduled.

Besides ready-made uniforms, notices with designs of the uniforms were also made available to parents giving them the alternative of making the clothes themselves.

Dr. Barakat believes that the uniforms create a more orderly atmosphere in the classrooms which he thinks would be beneficial to both students and teachers alike. However, some boys still seem reluctant to embrace this new idea.

"My sons said that very few of their peers are wearing uniforms, so they feel uncomfortable wearing them themselves, although we have bought them," a father in Zarqa said. In other cases, the parents themselves prefer not to go through the additional trouble. "One would need to buy two uniforms and, since during the winter warmer clothes will be needed underneath, it will just be an extra expense," a mother in Amman commented.

Dr. Barakat agreed that the initial introduction of school uniforms for boys is likely to meet with some difficulties. He added that the ministry has instructed headmasters at boys' primary and secondary schools to encourage the pupils to wear the new uniforms without being in any way forceful. "We used a similar approach fourteen years ago when we introduced school uniforms for girls, and we believe that, eventually, the idea will catch on for boys as well and they themselves will ask their parents to buy the uniforms once the majority of their schoolmates are wearing them," he said.

The prices of the ready-made uniforms vary from JD 4-6 depending on the size.

Chinese delegation visits Yarmouk

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran conferred here Monday with a delegation from the Institute of International Studies in China. Dr. Badran briefed the visitors on the development of the university, the scientific research it conducts and the services it offers to the local community. The delegation met with a number of university professors with whom they discussed topics related to the Middle East issue and efforts to find a just solution to the Palestine problem.

Jordanian expatriates to benefit from SSC services

Social Security Corporation draft law offers health insurance, pensions to citizens working abroad

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Social Security Corporation (SSC) has approved the corporation's new draft law enabling Jordanian expatriates to register with the SSC and benefit from the corporation's services and the law come into effect after it is approved by the concerned authorities, SSC Director General Mohammad Mahdi Al Farhan announced Monday.

Dr. Farhan, who was speaking at a press conference, told reporters that the corporation's new draft law is in line with the pledge His Majesty King Hussein made to Jordanians working abroad during the first national conference on Jordanian expatriates which was held in Amman in July of this year. The King's message at the conference said that the SSC will allow Jordanian expatriates to register with the corporation.

Under the current SSC law of 1978, Jordanian expatriates cannot enrol at the corporation. Only Jordanian and foreign employees working in both government and non-government organisations in Jordan are allowed to register with the corporation, provided that the total number of employees working in any organisation exceeds 10. At the end of each month, every employee transfers 5 per cent of his monthly income to the SSC which then invests the deposits in development projects.

Dr. Farhan said that the corporation's new draft law will be applied after it is approved by the cabinet, both houses of Parliament and by a Royal Decree. The SSC director general said that the new draft law would be applied in approximately one month after it is endorsed by parliament. Parliament, which is currently in recess, will meet for their third ordinary session on Nov. 1, after which the law will be discussed.

Dr. Farhan declined to comment on the number of Jordanian expatriates he expects to enrol with the SSC. He said: "If 20,000 expatriates out of the 400,000 Jordanians working abroad register with the SSC, this will be a very positive and promising sign." He expressed hope that the number of registered expatriates will exceed 20,000 because he did not want to see a repetition of the Egyptian or Turkish social security fund experiences. When Egypt allowed expatriate Egyptians to enrol in its social fund, only 14,000 expatriates out of three million registered, Dr. Farhan noted.

He also expressed hope that the corporation will establish an SSC bank in a short period of time. He did not comment on when he expected the bank to see the light, but said that the SSC has reached an agreement with the Central Bank of Jordan that the capital of the bank should be a minimum of JD 6 million. He said that if the bank is established, its main concern would be to finance Jordanian exports.

Foreign employees

Dr. Farhan, who gave the press conference to commemorate the seventh anniversary of SSC's 1978 law, also said that foreign employees who work in Jordan are covered by the corporation, and

are entitled to take a lump sum of their deposits once they decide to leave their work in the Kingdom. All foreign employees in Jordan are allowed to take their deposits provided that they have been registered at the SSC for a minimum of two years," he said.

Insurance, pensions

More than 317,000 Jordanian and foreign workers employed in 2,300 organisations in Jordan are registered with the SSC, out of which there are 10,259 foreign employees. Those registered at the SSC are insured against occupational injuries, death, old age, and handicaps. SSC beneficiaries are also entitled to full medical care in case of accidents while the employee is enroute to work or because of the nature of his work.

Since the corporation was established in 1978, 60,000 employees have benefited from the corporation's pension scheme and the amount of money spent on the 60,000 employees was JD 11.5 million, Dr. Farhan said.

To date, the corporation has invested JD 70,393,872 million in socio-economic and development projects and has deposits of JD 48,035,895 in local banks. The bulk of SSC's revenues are spent on the hotel and restaurants sector and investments in this area have reached JD 20,603,985, he said. The Dead Sea Resthouse is an example of a resthouse operated and supervised by the corporation. The SSC is currently modernising two resthouses in Zay and Debbin areas, north of Amman, and Dr. Farhan said that these two resthouses will be open to the public very soon. Responding to a question he said: "We are investing a lot of money in resthouses and hotels because the corporation believes in encouraging tourism for all members of the public."

Lawzi thanks WFP for assistance in developing highlands

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture Monday paid tribute to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) for its extensive help to Jordan, especially for assistance in developing the country's highland and rain-fed areas.

Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi said Jordan is particularly grateful for the assistance it is currently receiving from the WFP to carry out a four-stage development project in the highland regions. Thanks to this assistance Jordan has, since the mid 1960s, reclaimed 300,000 dunums of highlands and planted them with fruit trees, Dr. Lawzi said.

Dr. Lawzi was addressing the opening session of a symposium on the development of highland regions in Jordan held at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture.

He said that this symposium, which coincides with the world's celebration of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) 40th anniversary, is of great significance for Jordan which relies heavily on rain water for agriculture. This symposium, he added, will address itself to ways of exploiting highland regions and extending the area under cultivation as well as means of protecting the soil and preventing erosion.

Dr. Mohammad Dweiri, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, made a speech pointing out the fruitful cooperation between the faculty and the Ministry of Agriculture. He also reviewed a programme for training students of agriculture in all fields pertaining to agriculture.

The symposium was organised by the faculty in cooperation with WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture. Several university teachers and specialists attended the opening session.

On the eve of the symposium it was announced that WFP has decided to extend a project for developing Jordan's highlands for another four years starting in 1986.

The Ministry of Agriculture's director of the highland development programme, Mr. Ahmad Rimawi, said the WFP will spend some \$17.5 million on implementing the fourth stage of the project which envisages the reclamation of 200,000 dunums of land to be planted with fruit trees.

Tomato shortage due to end of season, Dudin says

By Arefeh Kaloti

AMMAN — Jordan at present is not producing sufficient quantities of tomatoes for local consumption or export because the seasonal crop of tomatoes is nearing its end, according to Mr. Marwan Dudin, the director general of the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO).

In an interview with the Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper and the Jordan Times, Mr. Dudin said that there has been a shortage of tomatoes for nearly a month. He pointed out that the situation will improve and said that sufficient amounts of tomatoes will be available in three months' time when the new season begins.

AMPCO has drawn up contracts with farmers and local producers in Ghor Al Safi for marketing their produce in the coming season and the company has conducted surveys in the Jordan Valley region and Adasiyah prior to reaching similar contracts, Mr. Dudin continued.

He said that AMPCO is concerned with creating a balance in production, both in quantity and quality, and will encourage farmers to grow potatoes and onions with assurances that these vegetables will be purchased by the company at very good prices.

Referring to the temporary stoppage at the tomato paste factories in the Jordan Valley, he explained that this was due to insufficient amounts of tomatoes, which led to a stoppage as of Oct. 1. But, he said, a factory in Marka is continuing to accept limited amounts of tomatoes for processing.

Referring to the production of eggplants, he said that AMPCO is now encouraging farmers to reduce the areas of land grown with eggplants and to replace it with potatoes and onions.

He said that AMPCO is currently launching a campaign designed to win foreign markets and to conclude contracts for exporting Jordanian crops. Jordan imports potatoes and onions from Syria when they are in season and sells Syria a number of seasonal crops grown in Jordan and needed by the Syrian market. Mr. Dudin added, Jordan, he continued, also imports seeds of various crops, fodder and meat from Syrian companies, depending on the season. He expressed hope that further cooperation with Syria in this field would be realised in the future.

Mr. Dudin also announced that AMPCO has concluded a number of contracts for selling tomato paste to Egypt and Iraq and has shipped samples of paste to European markets.

Assad, Kana'an confer with council of churches delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nasseerdeen Al Assad conferred at his office Sunday with a delegation representing the World Council of Churches. Dr. Assad spoke about Jordan's support and assistance to the Arab people in the occupied Arab territories, especially in the fields of education, agriculture and industry.

Assad told the delegation. But, he said, any resistance to Israel's arbitrary actions should not be considered as acts of terrorism. Present at the meeting was Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an who said Jordan does not spare any efforts to provide assistance for the Arab people in the occupied territories and he explained that this assistance is channelled through the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee.

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Home, home in the jungle

By Rami G. Khouri

THE CYCLE of violence and counter-violence, of lawlessness and counter-lawlessness, that has engulfed Israelis, Palestinians and Americans during the past two weeks reconfirms that in the Middle East there are no winners or losers, only victims. I find it futile to take a single incident of lawlessness, isolate it from its wider context, and attempt to assess it according to criteria of either law or morality.

The killing of three Israelis in Cyprus, the Israeli bombing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation offices in Tunisia, the Palestinian hijacking of an Italian cruise ship, and the American diversion of an Egyptian plane to Sicily are all single strands in a tapestry of violence and counter-violence that we have lived with for nearly four decades. To brand any particular incident as particularly odious or illegal strikes me as an exercise by people who find it easier to deal with the symptoms of the problem rather than tackling its root causes.

Individually, all of these incidents are loathsome acts that would be condemned by reasonable men and prosecuted by any self-respecting legal system. But we are not dealing here in the realm of reasonable men. We are in a universe of madness, violence, murder, and virtual anarchy. We are in a universe that applauds acts of mass murder, rejoices at bre-

aches of international law, and takes macabre satisfaction in the violent death of the enemy. It is a universe in which Palestinians, Israelis and Americans have all felt comfortable at various points in recent history.

In all cases, without exception, the protagonists justify their lawlessness, and plead immunity from the otherwise universal code of ethics that we all pay lip service to, by claiming a higher right than others to national vengeance, political retribution and military retaliation.

Palestinian acts of violence are based on an inalienable right to fight for the justice that has been denied this people. Israelis say their acts of violence are based on an inalienable right to security. To the U.S., American acts of violence are based on an inalienable right to protect their own nationals and fight international terrorism.

If everyone keeps practising his right to engage in violence and counter-violence, in a few years there will not be anybody left alive who might claim, in a last whimper of life before dying, that ordinary people on all sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict have an inalienable right to live a normal life, in freedom, security and dignity.

I find it odd, and morally uncomfortable, that almost all the accusations that one protagonist hurds against the others are, in

fact, more or less correct. The Israeli attack against the PLO offices in Tunisia was an act of almost gratuitous mass murder. The Palestinian hijacking of the Italian cruise liner was an act of unbridled stupidity, and the killing of the American passenger, if done by the Palestinians, was an act of savagery. The American diversion of the Egyptian airplane carrying the hijackers of the cruise ship was an act of international banditry.

They can all be condemned, and they can all be justified. But, one asks: So what?

We have lived with murder, stupidity, savagery and banditry for a very long time. If less than half a dozen Arabs or Israelis are killed in any single incident, we hardly give it a second thought. We take it for granted that half a dozen Americans are being held hostage in Lebanon. We learn of the latest Israeli raid or Palestinian violence with a shrug of the shoulders, wondering only why it did not happen sooner, or more often, or with a greater loss of life.

As the current cycle of violence runs its course, all sides' accusations strike me as pathetic attempts to distinguish between different forms of violence, and different categories of morality. The only thing that will be proved by the latest cycle of violence is the inevitably cyclical nature of violence itself. Whether we justify

our acts or scorn those of our enemies, we should try to retain enough of our humanity to recognise that we are all beasts roaring in the jungle, living and dying by the law of the jungle.

The balance of power might change now and then, but the operative facts of human nature will not change. Those who feel deprived of justice and their human and political rights will eventually take up arms to demand from the world a redress of grievance. America was among the first to teach us this lesson in the 18th century. The rest of the world has learned the lesson well. Those who are done an injustice will fight to see justice done. Those who are attacked will attack back. Those who have been murdered will murder in turn. Those who savage the universal ethic will be savaged by it in return.

The cycle of violence in the Middle East will not be ended by invoking one's right to retaliate, to seek vengeance, to indulge in "legitimate self-defence" or to live in the fantasy world of the Old West, where one took the law into one's own hands and spat on the rule of law. This brand of thinking will only guarantee that the deaths continue, the cycle of violence expands, the realm of the jungle spreads even further, and the rule of law dwindles into total insignificance and irrelevance.

If the pattern of murder and lawlessness is ever to be stopped and reversed, it will only happen by eliminating its root causes. Palestinian-Zionist communal violence started in the early decades of this century when large-scale Jewish immigration to Palestine aimed to create a Zionist state on Palestinian Arab land. The creation of the Jewish state in 1948 resolved the dilemma of the Jews, but only to create the dilemma of the Palestinians. Palestinian counter-violence against Israel has continued unabated since then, and has recently spread to include violence against Americans and other third parties.

One suspects — by golly, it seems so simple — that the violence will stop when the root causes of the violence are addressed and eliminated. The Palestinian people ought rightly to have a territory in which they can exercise political sovereignty and national self-determination.

The world — including the United States and the Zionist groups who later formed the first government of Israel — agreed on this when they accepted the 1947 United Nations General Assembly resolution to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. The Jewish state has existed since 1948. The Palestinian state has not yet been formed. When it is, there will be no reason for Pal-

estinians to take up arms against Israelis. There will be no cause to hijack the ships or airplanes of third countries. There will be no need for Israel to attack Palestinian targets. And there will be no need for American arms in Israeli hands to kill Palestinians, or American fighter planes to hijack Egyptian aircraft.

When the Palestinian people exercise their right to national self-determination, the cycle of violence will have no reason to continue, and the jungle of our immorality will recede. The prophets of Islam, Christianity and Judaism will rest more comfortably, knowing that their children are not killing wantonly, and that their morality of egalitarianism and equality of all people before God and the law applies, in fact, to all people, to Palestinians as well as to Israelis.

Until that happens, 5,000 years of human civilisation and the heirs that beat in the bodies of all men and women will assure without fail that the sinned against will sin in turn, that the subjugated will subjugate in turn, that violence will beget more violence, that our jungle will grow and grow, and that all of us — on all sides of the conflict — will count, bury, mourn and avenge our victims until there are no more people to kill, and only the jungle shall have beaten us all.

Step for economy

BY taking the new economic measures announced last Saturday, the government seems to be firmly set to go ahead with plans designed to revitalise the economy and breathe life into our national industry.

Those measures form one more link in a long chain of actions that the government undertook to carry out upon its appointment to office last April. A dual purpose would no doubt be served by the government's decision to ban the importation of products considered luxurious, or those that can be supplied by our national industry.

The ban can save much-needed hard currency for a country with such meagre resources like Jordan, and will encourage national business concerns to increase production and improve the quality of goods which, after meeting demand in the local market, would bring in additional income when sold abroad.

Important in this regard was the decision to remove or reduce considerably customs duty on essential commodities like powdered milk and others that serve as ingredients for our national industry, like raw materials, and also items like computers and printing paper regarded as useful for promoting knowledge, culture, industry and technology in Jordan.

But, no matter how well-planned these measures are, they would not serve their purpose unless they win the support of the people they affect, and eventually contribute towards the country's progress and development.

It can be said that the government's latest measures have placed both industry and the public face to face with a dual challenge: Our industry now will have to improve the quality of products and offer them at reasonable prices, and the public has to buy more national product, and forego whatever desire to have foreign-made goods of similar quality.

The measures are no doubt aimed at benefitting the country as a whole; it is now up to our industry and the public to help us achieve this goal.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: The assassination of a man of peace

NOTHING HAS been said in the U.S. press about the assassination of Alex Odeh the Arab-American who was killed by Zionist agents in Santa Ana in California, and nothing has been done on the official level to investigate his killing or find the assassins.

The reason is clear enough, and it is because he is an Arab and particularly a Palestinian, an enemy of Zionism, despite the fact that he was an American citizen.

Alex Odeh has devoted his life to the defence of his homeland and to the combat of terrorism, only to find himself a victim of terrorists and racists in a country which brags about its keenness on fighting terrorism anywhere and any time.

No one in the United States seems to be concerned with condemning the killing because it was carried by Zionist elements which have had enjoyed U.S. official and public support and unlimited help at all times.

Shortly before his death Alexander Odeh said on television that the Arabs want peace and warned against the current policy of the U.S. administration which is hostile to the PLO and the Arab people.

It is because he said this, that he had to die at the hands of Zionist agents who hate the Arabs in general and the PLO in particular. Alexander Odeh had always advocated peace and non-discrimination and it was because of his ideas and principles that he was killed by the enemies of peace.

Al Dustour: Europe is important for peace

IN AN address to an international conference in Italy under the slogan "Oil for Peace", Prince Hassan said that violence can only breed more violence. He also warned against the actions of extremist elements who have been escalating acts of violence in the Middle East saying that they are endangering the peace of the whole area and that of Europe.

Prince Hassan said that Israeli repressive measures in the occupied Arab lands are bound to create a tense atmosphere and pave the ground for more violence and retaliatory measures.

The Arabs have waited for long to see Europe coming to their aid and to help them solve the Middle East question, but Prince Hassan said, that the Arabs can wait no longer and that the current violence in the region comes as a result of Arab people's attempts to regain their lands and Israel's retaliation against them.

This cycle of violence indicates that the Middle East is far away from peace and calls on Europe to extend a helping hand and find a peaceful solution to the Palestine problem, because Europe's peace will be endangered if violence is still allowed to continue.

Sawi Al Shaab: Calling on Europe

PRINCE HASSAN pointed out in his address to an international conference in Rome on "Oil for Peace" that Europe and the Arab World have always been close in their relations and their cooperation. He said peace efforts should continue and oil should be allowed to flow peacefully to Europe, but that Europe should do something to help this process to continue unhindered.

The current unstable situation in the Middle East, Prince Hassan said, stems from Israel's aggressive policies and its occupation of Palestinian land. This situation should end with European help and with a halt to all Israeli aggressive practices that prevent peace and stability to be established.

He said unless Europe plays a meaningful role in this respect, the Middle East will continue to witness further acts of violence that might extend to Europe and endanger peace there.

Japanese minister gives little ground to Chinese pressure

By Anthony Barker
Reuter

PEKING — Chinese Leaders reproached Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe over Japan's mounting trade surplus and its attitude to the wartime past during his visit to Peking this week, but Abe made few public concessions.

In one of a series of frank exchanges, top leader Deng Xiaoping told Abe that China could not accept another year of massive and growing Japanese trade surpluses. "If the trade imbalance is seen only one or two years it is all right," Deng said, according to a Japanese spokesman who gave full briefings on the meetings.

"But if this trade imbalance lasts into the third consecutive year China would feel the question of debts, just as in the case of Latin American countries," Deng said.

The Chinese trade deficit with Japan totalled about \$4 billion in the first eight months of this year, against \$1.25 billion in 1984.

Deng and other Chinese government chiefs criticised Japan for its low levels of investment in China and of technology transfers to aid Chinese development.

They also implicitly attacked visits last August by Japanese politicians, including Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Abe himself, to Tokyo's Yasukuni shrine, where Japan's war dead are honoured.

Some of those China views as war criminals for their role in Japan's occupation of China in the 1930s and 1940s are commemorated there.

Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian mentioned to Abe two angry student demonstrations which erupted in the past month in Peking, and the central city of Xian against Japan's trade policy and the shrine visit.

"He asked Japan to take note of the general feeling of the people of China," the Japanese spokesman reported.

Western diplomats said these were blunt words to be expressed between friendly countries.

In response, Abe restated Japan's profound regret for the harm it did to China during its invasions earlier this century, but on the specific points China raised he

gave very little ground.

According to the Japanese spokesman, when Deng talked of the trade imbalance, Abe said that both countries had to make efforts to restore the balance.

Senior Chinese economic planner Gu Mu asked Japan not to cut imports of Chinese oil and coal, the principal commodities Peking sells to pay for Japanese machinery, vehicles and consumer domestic appliances.

Abe agreed to make efforts to at least maintain current levels of purchases from China, but he added that this would be hard for Japan in the current competitive world energy market, the Japanese spokesman said.

Gu said Japanese investment and transfer of technology were too low. According to figures Gu cited in July in Tokyo, Japan last year accounted for only 5.7 per cent of joint ventures with foreign firms in China although it had a 25 per cent share of China's foreign trade.

Abe retorted that, here too, China had to make a contribution and he urged that an investment protection agreement be signed soon.

Japanese firms say they are cautious about investing in China because of what they fear is inadequate quality control and legal protection. Some were hard-bit when China abruptly cancelled a series of major contracts five years ago.

Talks on the investment pact now centre on Japan's desire for equal treatment with domestic investors, and on how Japanese firms can send profits home, the spokesman said.

Gu announced China would change its rules to help repatriation of profits and would also extend the length of joint ventures beyond 30 years in some sectors. Gu said these moves would help meet the wishes of Japanese investors, but did not give details.

Abe rounded off his stay on Saturday by visiting the huge new showpiece Baoshan iron and steel works near Shanghai.

Virtually the entire work was built with Japanese technology and equipment following a shaky start in the late 1970s during which China cancelled and later revived major parts of the project.



Thatcher fights with old weapons on new ground

By Maureen Johnson
Associated Press

BLACKPOOL, England — In not quite vintage style, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher brushed aside the doubters at her Conservative Party's annual conference and laid down a no-change policy in a changing British political scene.

The message that there can be no turning back, no state spending splurge to buy jobs, no softening of policies in response to ominous signals from opinion polls, fell on a party subdued after heavy years since Mrs. Thatcher ousted a Socialist government six years ago.

"We understand the realities of power... the limitations, the dilemmas, the agonised choices which face those in government," said Mrs. Thatcher, who turned 60 on Sunday.

"But there is one thing we will not do. We will not renege... you can't build a secure future on dishonest money."

The party entered the conference with its liberals expressing increasing anxiety about record 13.8 per cent unemployment. It has become a symbol for a more general complaint that the Thatcher administration appears cold, hard and uncaring.

But delegates left this northwest England resort in no doubt that the next election — which must be

held by mid-1988 — will be fought from a position firmly on the right.

The battleground has changed from the 1983 elections when Labour was on a radical left-wing platform, fighting a Conservative Party which claimed it needed two terms to pull the economy around, and which was riding high on Mrs. Thatcher's success in the Falklands.

At the main opposition Labour Party's annual conference this month, leader Neil Kinnock cracked down on his Socialist movement's radicals.

Whether Kinnock's writ will stick with his fractious party is uncertain. But he emerged strengthened, at least for now, in credibility and voter appeal.

Labour, after months of jostling the centrist Social Democratic-Liberal Party alliance for the lead, moved firmly ahead — mainly at alliance expense — to 36-38 per cent of the vote in most recent opinion polls.

The Tories remained at about 30 per cent, 12-14 points down from a year ago, and a few points ahead of the alliance.

A Harris poll after the Labour convention indicated for the first time that more people favour 43-year-old Kinnock as prime minister than Mrs. Thatcher.

In addition to a more threatening Labour challenge, the alliance's share of the vote — 25

percent at the last election in 1983 — could hurt the Tories most next time.

In 1983, the alliance was a hoon to Mrs. Thatcher because it split the left-of-centre vote. The upshot was a huge 144-seat Conservative majority in the 650-member House of Commons — on 42.4 per cent of the vote.

What a succession of cabinet ministers offered in Blackpool as ammunition for a third successive victory was Thatcherism with a sense of vision.

"We must have a vision of what sort of a society we intend to create," said the new party chairman Norman Tebbit. "Above all, it must be a Britain in which we establish and strengthen the unity which has always been the strength of our nation."

Uniting the nation is not, polls show, regarded as Mrs. Thatcher's strong suit.

Gallup surveys show 71 per cent of voters agree with the description "she divides the country," compared with 31 per cent in 1977.

Commented the Liberal Guardian newspaper's analyst Hugo Young:

"Hard sloggish is what's mainly left, stumbling along towards imperfect solutions, the doubters within and the enemies without increasing by the month."

Prime among the doubters is

Mrs. Thatcher's energy secretary Peter Walker.

He argues that past Tory successes — including taming the unions, controlling inflation and defeating a year-long coal strike — will be forgotten if ordinary people believe Mrs. Thatcher is uncaring.

"They gave us the benefit of the doubt in 1983 because they appreciated harsh measures were needed to revitalise the economy," Walker told a fringe meeting in Blackpool.

"But they will not accept the same excuses for a second time."

A leader who is at her best in a crisis — the 1982 Falklands Islands war against Argentina, the 1984-85 coal strike — now faces the long haul of domestic arguments over jobs, the welfare state, the causes of rioting in racially mixed inner city districts.

The Walker-type Tories, a decreasing minority in positions of power in Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party, believe she will have to bend to win again.

But in the view of some analysts, Mrs. Thatcher's insistence that there are no easy answers will dictate increasingly the tone of the national argument.

Commented the independent Financial Times, "British politics may be sadder than a few years ago, but also wiser."

Controversial Bahamas leader hosts Commonwealth meeting

By Nikki Kelley
Reuter

NASSAU, Bahamas — Just one year after a drug smuggling scandal nearly toppled his government, Bahamas prime minister Sir Lynden Pindling is preparing to play host to this month's Commonwealth conference amid lingering controversy.

Originally budgeted at five million dollars, the week-long summit of 47 heads of government may end up costing nearer 50 million, including the bill for a last-minute government security in beautified neglected parts of the capital.

The Bahamas, with its tiny population of 231,000, is the smallest country — and the first Caribbean nation — ever to host the Commonwealth meeting, held every two years. This year's runs from next Wednesday to the following

Tuesday.

Opponents of the 55-year-old premier say the money could have been better spent repairing the country's crumbling public buildings and dilapidated schools, where classroom shortages and poor sanitation are the norm for thousands of Bahamian children.

"The government cannot complain about a lack of funds when it is spending millions of dollars to host the conference," says Cecil Whitfield, chairman of the Free National Movement (FNM).

The FNM party, which controls 11 of 43 seats in parliament, plans to show its disapproval by holding public rallies during the summit to protest against Pindling's policies.

"We also want the world to know how we feel about the prime minister and his corrupt government," says FNM leader Kendal Isaacs.

Pindling's opponents say he is

using the meeting to repair damage done to his image abroad by a Bahamian royal commission which unearthed a web of drug-related corruption tainting every level of his administration.

In its report last December, the commission found no wrongdoing on Pindling's part but charged that some of his closest associates, including two cabinet ministers, had links with drug smugglers and money laundering.

It was also disclosed that Pindling himself had received millions of dollars from foreign interests in the Bahamas.

One of those named by the commission for dealings with drug traffickers was Nassau lawyer and longtime friend of Pindling, Nigel Bowe. Last month U.S. federal and state grand juries in Miami, Florida, charged Bowe with conspiring to ship over two billion dollars worth of cocaine through the

Bahamas to America.

Arrested by Nassau police on October 3 in connection with the U.S. charges, Bowe is free on a one-million-dollar bond awaiting a Bahamian court ruling on his possible extradition.

Pindling has refused to discuss the commission's damning findings with fellow members of his governing Progressive Liberal Party (PLP), which holds 32 seats in parliament.

Those like former housing minister Hubert Ingraham who have dared to publicly condemn the accused wrongdoers have faced disciplinary action by the party's national council.

Pindling fired Ingraham from his ministerial post last October after he denounced government corruption, and the prime minister has denied him the chance to stand as a PLP candidate in the next general election.

"Nowhere in the free world do I know of any parliamentarian being censured for speaking out against corruption," said PLP representative Sinclair Outten, one of the many party faithfuls angered by Ingraham's treatment.

Over the years, Pindling's administration has been mired in a series of corruption scandals. But he has managed to survive 28 consecutive years in power because no challenger has emerged to match his popularity in the party's grassroots.

Among his staunchest supporters he is known as the "Black Moses" of this affluent tourist paradise, though bankers and businessmen have few doubts that the illicit fruits of the drug trade have done as much as tourism to foster the conspicuous wealth that pervades the Bahamas.

In just one generation, Bahamians have seen political power

transferred to the black majority, which forms 90 per cent of the population, and their children have become part of a rapidly expanding black middle class.

Like the white minority which has continued to prosper under the PLP, affluent blacks are reluctant to upset the status quo.

Since the commission's report, Pindling's business policies have been aimed at reinforcing his base of support among both blacks and whites.

In the past year at least six multi-million-dollar projects have been announced, including a \$15-million brewery to be built by the Dutch brewers Heineken.

Pindling, whose efforts to revitalise the economy have been aided by a sharp rise in tourism after years of stagnation, recently spoke confidently of being "in constant dialogue" with the business community.

Earthquakes pick on the poor

Earthquakes, as well as other natural disasters, pick their victims by income — both personal and national. The Mexican quakes were a strangely mixed example of this principle. Lloyd Timberlake is Earthscan's editorial director.

By Lloyd Timberlake

LONDON — In an earthquake, poverty is a bigger killer than the earth tremors themselves. In fact, in all "natural disasters", it is the poor who die in the biggest numbers and poverty which is the most obvious cause of death.

The Mexico quakes are a mixed example of this. Because Mexico City is built on the silt of an old lake bed, the tremors turned the soil to ocean-like waves, and the tall buildings — hotels, office buildings and high-rise public housing — came down. They came down surprisingly easily in an earthquake-prone city, indicating that Mexico City's poverty includes a lack of honest construction companies and building inspectors. Already, Mexican citizens' groups are charging that some supposedly "earthquake-proof" buildings proved particularly fragile.

About half of the city's 18 million people live in illegal or self-built shanties, many in shantytowns. The quake was easier on these low buildings. Many babies and toddlers died when the adobe bricks of shanties fell on them, while adults were less vulnerable. But the poor will be the last counted amidst the drama of collapsing hotels.

Mexico City was very different from the 1974 Guatemala quake which killed 22,000. Of the 1,200 people killed and 90,000 left

homeless in Guatemala city, virtually all were in the shanties and shanties along ravines. Their ramshackle homes tumbled downhill when the tremors came; the rich lived in solid structures in this known quake zone.

However, thousands of Mexicans live in similar conditions in the rural towns and villages. When the full death toll is in, it would not be surprising if these turn out to have suffered badly.

In 1972, a quake measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale hit Managua, Nicaragua, and killed 5,000. The year before, a stronger quake (6.6) struck San Fernando, California; 65 people died. Both Managua and San Fernando are prone to earthquakes, but Managua is much more vulnerable.

Recent events in the United States showed that hurricanes also choose victims according to national income. When Hurricane Elena slammed into Mississippi in early September only four or five people died; there had been ample warning and an orderly evacuation made possible by good roads and many private vehicles. When hurricanes hit Bangladesh, as they routinely do and as one did this May, thousands are killed.

In 1974, Hurricane Fifi struck Honduras, killing 4,000-8,000 people, almost all poor peasants. The same year Cyclone Tracy, with equally fierce winds, struck Darwin, Australia; 49 people died. Darwin had been evacuated.

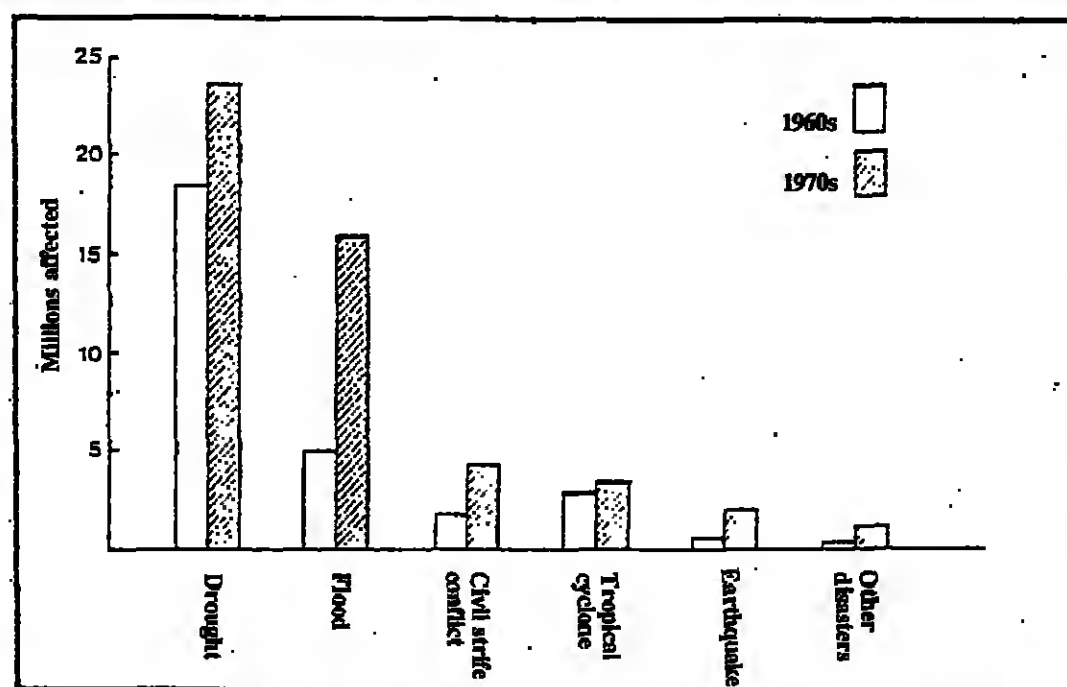
The "poverty principle" is strict for all natural disasters. Rich Japan suffers more such events than poorer Peru. But the average Japanese disaster kills 63 people, the average Peruvian catastrophe takes 2,900 lives.

The growing numbers of vulnerable poor around the world explain why the number of "natural disasters" and of those killed in such disasters grows each decade. During the 1960s an average of 5,250 people died in quakes each year; in the 1970s it was 38,970 per year. Hurricanes killed 10,750 a year in the 1960s, 34,360 in the 1970s. Hurricanes and quakes are not coming more frequently or more violently, but the "disasters" they cause take more lives and injure more people.

Two other types of natural disasters are actually caused to a large extent by man's handiwork. By felling forests for farmland and then overcultivating and overgrazing that farmland, people make drylands (Africa especially) more prone to drought, and high rainfall areas (parts of India, Southeast Asia and South America) more prone to floods.

If this theory is true, one would expect floods and droughts to be the primary and the most rapidly increasing disasters worldwide. They are. Floods are the fastest growing disaster in terms of number affected: 5.2 million per year in the 1960s, 15.4 million in the 1970s. Droughts are the biggest disaster in terms of numbers affected: 18.5 million in the 1960s and 24.4 million in the 1970s.

The 1980s promise a continuation of both trends, especially given that in 1984-85, there were 30 million suffering from drought in Africa alone.



Number of people affected per year by disasters. Between the 1960s and 1970s, the number of people affected by disasters each year nearly doubled.

(Source: "Natural disasters — Acts of God or acts of Man?" Earthscan 1984)

the corruption associated with government relief work, concentrated resentment against the Somozas regime and aided the rise of the Sandinistas. The 1978 Tabas earthquake in Iran had the same effect on the Shah's regime, which fell the next year. Drought and famine led directly to the overthrow of Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in 1974, losing the United States a friend in the strategic Horn of Africa.

Mexico is hardly on the brink of revolution. But the call of the International Monetary Fund's mission for a freeze on lending to Mexico, after three years of IMF-induced austerity, virtually coincided with the quakes. Will that

poor timing, combined with the vast expense of reconstructing the heart of the world's biggest city, push Mexico to cancel all or some of its almost \$100 billion in debts? If so, the effects of the earthquake would rumble violently through the U.S. and the world banking community, and could have aftershocks in other Latin debtor nations.

Science is still puzzled about the mechanics of earthquakes, hurricanes, drought and eruptions. But the world is fast learning that natural disasters are as much political, economic and social events as "Acts of Nature" — Earthscan feature.



The Sagens worked together on 'Contact'

Carl Sagan: fiction and fact back to back

By Glenn Collins

ITHACA, New York — There is no telescope in Carl Sagan's house, although there certainly are a few objects that invite attention. There is an exact Styrofoam copy of the Rosetta stone, which the astronomer has propped against the living room wall. From a Mobil gas station, there is a great red steel Pegasus. And just about everywhere there is a toddler named Alexandria — everyone calls her Sashie. But there is no telescope.

"I don't need one," Sagan, 50, said contentedly. "I have that." He pointed beyond the spiral staircase, beyond the broad green terrace, to the sky. The multilevel house, linked by steel stairways set in the cliffs of Cayuga Heights, looks past Lake Cayuga's waters to distant hills that were once scraped by glaciers. The lattice-work balcony is suspended from shale cliffs high over the Fall Creek cataraet. There is the feeling here of living in space.

Indeed, Sagan was anticipating a space walk of a sort, traversing the cold, dark void between the nation's talk-show hosts to publicize two new books, "Contact," (just published by Simon & Schuster) is Sagan's first novel, a tale of the search for extraterrestrial civilizations. In November, "Comet" (Random House, \$24.95), an illustrated compendium, will appear just as Halley's Comet swims into our ken. Sagan wrote "Comet" with, as a publicity collaborator and co-author, Ann Druyan. That is to say, his third wife.

The pre-publication hype about these books has been positively unearthly. "We have a dream," commented Sagan's agent back in Manhattan, Scott Meredith, his voice assuming the tones Sagan reserves for the prospect of finding fossils in the ancient river beds of Mars. "That one day soon we'll find that 'Contact' is No. 1 on the fiction best-seller list and 'Comet' is No. 1 on the nonfiction list."

Sagan's books have sold eight million copies worldwide, and a public-television series, "Cosmos," was seen by 250 million people around the world. A Pulitzer Prize-winner for his best-selling "Dragons of Eden" in 1978, Sagan received a \$2-million advance, payable over 10 years, for "Contact."

The novel concerns mankind's first encounter with intelligent life beyond the earth and "is not my prediction about what will happen," he said, "but rather the glimpse of a possible future, of which there are many." Sagan did predict, however, that the novel would not have dire consequences for his scientific reputation. "What's the worst thing that could happen? That I'd write a crummy novel."

He tried fiction writing, he said, "for the same reason I've gone on the Tonight show: to reach a different audience, millions of people." But Sagan, David Duncan professor of astronomy and space sciences and director of the Laboratory of Planetary Studies at Cornell University, insisted that his academic work and still found teaching challenging. Indeed, orange chalk marks streaked his blue suit, the traces of a session with his graduate students.

Sagan spoke of criticism that he is egotistical and arrogant and said he believed that some of it derived "from the interminable close-ups of me looking awed," he said. He was speaking of scenes in "Cosmos" in which he was depicted piloting a fantasy spaceship. He said he opposed the close-ups but that the spaceship notion "was presented by the producers as a fact accompli."

Sagan is invariably recognized and pestered for autographs. But he does not seem to brood about the price of fame. "When I walk through an airport," he said, "and people stop me and tell me how

much they like my work — now, how could that be a burden?"

Like celebrities as disparate as Gerald R. Ford, Mr. Rogers and Barbara Walters, he has gone beyond mere fame to that special familiarity that breeds parody. "Look, anyone who is really upset by that kind of thing has the option of not being a public figure," he said. "But I never actually said the words 'hillions and hillions' on 'Cosmos,'" he added, speaking the words that Johnny Carson intones while wearing a Carl Sagan wig.

"Once he showed me the wig," he said. Like Sagan, Carson is an astronomy buff who shares Sagan's enthusiasm about space exploration. Sagan said they had never discussed another point in common, their much-married status.

Sagan was granted a divorce from his second wife of 12 years, Linda, in May 1981 and married Druyan the following month.

Sagan said the conflict had been resolved "except for some legal residuum." "The dust has settled," agreed Druyan, 36. She and Sagan met at a dinner party in 1974 given by the writer Nora Ephron, and they later worked together, with Sagan's wife, on part of the Voyager project in which two spacecraft sent back spectacular pictures of Jupiter, Saturn and their moons.

The central character of "Contact" is a woman, "and the good part of the character is based on Annie," said Sagan. His wife helped him with the plotting of "Contact," he said, and they share authorship — in the same sense: typeface — on the nonfiction "Comet."

Tall, chic and given to enthusiasm, Druyan is the author of a 1977 novel, "A Famous Broken Heart," and co-author of the "Cosmos" television series. "Along the way a lot of women have done a lot of work for important men and got no credit," Druyan said. "And here, he's made me co-author of 'Comet.'"

One of them was Sagan's near-fatal bout in March 1983 with a rare disorder of the esophagus that caused massive internal hemorrhaging. His blood was replaced twice, and he had 10 hours of surgery in the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse.

Sagan has four children ranging in age from 26 to this 2-year-old daughter with Druyan. "My father used to make up stories about black holes and tell them to my brother and me night after night," said his son, Dorian, his oldest child, who lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and was visiting. "In fact, I was probably one of the first people that he experimented on in his attempts to popularize science." The experiment has had promising but mixed results. Dorian is a science writer. He is also a magician.

Sagan said his next book would deal with nuclear issues, reflecting his research on the theory that a nuclear exchange would lead to a global climatic catastrophe called a nuclear winter. To reduce international tension, he supports a Soviet-American manned "exploration of Mars." You'll see the legs of the Russian and American commanders and make them hop down together," Sagan answered to the question of who would step on Mars first. He is looking forward to the appearance of Halley's Comet, he said, "but if people are expecting it to be as bright as the moon they're going to be disappointed."

"Remember," Druyan added, "there's a really good Halley's Comet apparition in 2134 to look forward to."

"That's my 200th birthday," Sagan said. "I don't know if I'll be around for that one." — International Herald Tribune.

Palestinian artists express the agony of human suffering

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Freedom from all kinds of oppressive political, social and economic bonds which bind the human spirit is the subject of a collection of paintings by Jordanian artists Jamal Khamis and Adam Al-Hilo and currently on display at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.

Human suffering in general and the tragedy of the Palestinian people in particular are the focus of the artists' drawings, expressed, either in rich oil colours or in simple black and white. The drawings of both artists, particularly those in black and white, are characterized by their clarity and strength of expression; a trait which underlines the philosophies of Khamis and Hilo. Both artists believe that the form should not overshadow the content of any work of art because as they say "a painting void of substance becomes just another beautiful piece of decoration."

Judging by the paintings on display, neither Khamis nor Hilo have produced decorative pieces.

In fact, most of the paintings, which express intense feelings of human agony, succeed in leaving a disturbing impact on the viewer because they stand as reminders of millions of desperate people suffering in all corners of the world. That is not to deny, of course, the beauty of the paintings nor the harmony of the colours.

Despite the common features in the works of the two artists, they remain distinct since they reflect different personal experiences which left a strong impact of their style technique and the way they express even the most similar ideas.

The story of Hilo is the story of the triumph of human determination over physical disabilities as he has successfully challenged his physical handicap and become a well-established self-taught artist who has developed his own distinctive style.

Cry for freedom
Hilo's style is particularly evident in his latest works in which he uses only a black pen. In his new works Hilo uses circular adjacent lines to define even the tiniest and

most complicated details of the drawings. The fine black circles project deep feelings of anger, agony and rejection of all forms of oppression including the deprivation of the Palestinian people of their homeland and apartheid practised against the blacks of South Africa. In his latest drawing, the 32-year-old Hilo seems to unleash a cry for freedom.

The subjects of Hilo's drawings reveal a transparent soul which was able to absorb different human experiences and to transform them into creative works of art. In contrast to Hilo's soft lines, the thick, black brush work in Khamis' drawings are an expression of the harshness of his childhood as a Palestinian refugee. "I am haunted by Israeli fighters which raided my childhood and innocence," he says.

Khamis was born in Al Aroub camp in the West Bank in 1952 and was forced to flee to another refugee camp in Jordan when Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967. He studied fine arts in East Germany where he was influenced by the German art school and where he became acquainted with

the plights of Third World nations. Later he continued his studies in the Frankfurt Academy of Arts and became a member of the German Artists Federation.

During his stay in West Germany and his extensive travels in Western Europe, Khamis was shocked by the strength of Zionist anti-Palestinian propaganda and was touched by the problems of unemployment and alienation facing Arab immigrants in Europe.

Reflected experiences
This experience was reflected in his art and consequently he employed his talents, and education "to portray to the world the reality of the Palestinian tragedy." His art works became a weapon to promote the Palestinian cause, the struggle for the liberation of women and the fight against all sorts of economic and racial discrimination.

The current exhibition is the fourteenth for Hilo since 1983 while Khamis has held many exhibitions in West Germany, France, Italy and other European countries. The exhibition will continue until Oct. 15.



'Freedom' by Jamal Khamis

Britain calls off talks with joint delegation

(Continued from page 1)

the basis that the two PLO Executive Committee members will endorse a statement renouncing "terrorism and violence" and advocating a peaceful settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Howe, however, received the Jordanian members of the delegation, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri as well as the Jordanian ambassador to Britain, Nabih Al Nimr.

According to the official Jordanian statement, an agreement was made last month, prior to Mrs. Thatcher's invitation, among the British side, Jordan and the PLO that the Palestinian delegates in the joint delegation will issue a statement, following talks with Mr. Howe, in which the joint team will stress "points emphasized" by Mrs. Thatcher during her visit to Jordan last month.

At a press conference she held before leaving Jordan on Sept. 20 Mrs. Thatcher expressed hope that the PLO will abandon "violence and accept United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338."

But, Monday's statement by Jordan said, one of the two PLO officials in London refused to endorse the agreed-upon text of the statement. The official statement did not identify which of the two Palestinian officials refused to go ahead with the agreement but expressed regrets over his position. The Jordanian government, according to the statement, also expressed understanding of the circumstances which compelled Mr. Howe to cancel the meeting.

The joint delegation was to have met with Sir Geoffrey at 10.30 a.m. on Monday. But when the two Jordanian officials arrived at the Foreign Office blanketed by security against possible demonstrations or attack by Jewish and Palestinian extremists, they were without Mr. Milham and Bishop Khouri, and it was clear that Britain's initiative had gone awry.

Mr. Howe said in a statement that when Mrs. Thatcher invited

the delegation during her visit to Jordan, Britain got "unambiguous assurances" that the PLO men would endorse a declaration of peace and recognition of Israel's right to exist.

But "when they came to the moment of truth they were unwilling to make the declaration that we thought necessary," he said.

They "were not, after all, willing to associate themselves with a statement agreed with the Jordanian members of the delegation which contained explicit references both to Israel's right to exist within secure and recognised borders, and to the right of the Palestinians to self-determination."

"In these circumstances, we have concluded that the meeting with the joint delegation cannot take place," Mr. Howe said. Mr. Howe held a 30-minute meeting with Mr. Majali and Mr. Masri but he called the cancellation of the joint session with the Palestinians a setback to peace prospects.

Britain and Jordan had hoped that the meeting, if it had gone ahead, would have encouraged the United States to drop its opposition to talking to the PLO.

In a related development, a Luxembourg government spokesman said a planned meeting between the Jordanian-PLO delegation and European Community (EC) officials was cancelled at the PLO's request.

The request to put off the meeting came at about the same time that Britain announced it was cancelling talks with the same PLO delegation, the AP said.

A source in the Luxembourg Foreign Ministry, who spoke to the AP on condition that he not be identified, said the PLO delegation gave no specific reason for calling off the scheduled meeting Wednesday in Luxembourg, with EC officials.

"They said that in their view it would be better to put it over until later," he said, adding that no arrangements had been made for rescheduling the meeting, which had not previously been confirmed.

EC foreign ministers extended an invitation to the PLO as part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation on Oct. 2 after the Israeli bombing of the Tunis headquarters of the PLO, in which nearly 70 people died.

The community is due to meet Israeli officials on Oct. 22 and diplomats said this meeting would go ahead.

Israel, which had protested against the British invitation to the PLO, said on Monday it was satisfied with the British action.

"We have received with a satisfaction notification of the cancellation... it is regrettable that a respected Western government was misled by unfounded hopes," an Israeli statement said.

"This current development strengthens the position of the government of Israel, which calls for direct negotiations with Jordan," it said.

The cancellation of the London meeting delighted British Jews and outraged supporters of the Arab cause. It dealt a severe blow to Britain's hopes of unjamming the Middle East peace process and drawing in the United States.

Mr. Howe said the Jordanians were "as disappointed as we were because they... have been working very, very hard to secure progress

toward peace."

In radio and television interviews, Mr. Howe admitted the cancellation was "certainly a disappointment and a setback," but strongly denied it was an embarrassment.

In an interview with Independent Television News, Mr. Howe indicated on Monday Britain would not rush to take any further initiatives.

"We aren't going to move tomorrow in light of this disappointment," he said.

Asked whether he regretted the cancelled initiative was taken, Mr. Howe said: "I'm very sad, but I don't apologise for one moment for what we've done."

"It's absolutely right that a country with our interest, our influence and our historical concern in the area should be doing everything possible to back those who want a peaceful conclusion..."

Greville Janner, Labour Party lawmaker and member of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said: "I am delighted at the cancellation."

David Owen, leader of the centrist Social Democratic Party and former foreign secretary, said: "If you start an initiative based on hype and public relations as Mrs. Thatcher did on her visit to Jor-

Mubarak demands apology from Reagan

(Continued from page 1)

Mubarak said: "I hope that the clouds will pass. I hope we could reach the point where we could clarify this."

Earlier, the president hailed the crew of the diverted plane as heroes and announced they would get a bravery award.

He congratulated the crew on "a gallant and heroic action" and told a meeting of Egypt's ruling party they would receive the "Collar of Valour" civilian bravery awards (See page 2).

Mr. Mubarak said he decided to hand the gunman over to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, rather than to the Italians or Americans to avoid an escalation of reprisal

attacks. "If Arafat didn't punish them, then he would be responsible before the whole world," Mr. Mubarak said. "And after that, if any action took place, if any kind of terrorism took place after Arafat not punishing these people, then the world will have to do whatever it likes against any new kind of terrorism."

Mr. Mubarak said he fears that placing the gunman on trial in Italy will "not stop the violence."

"Had the Italians and Americans not taken these people, I think they would have avoided lots of things which may take place in future," he added.

Before meeting reporters, Mr.

Mubarak told members of his ruling National Democratic Party that recent acts of violence in the Middle East "represent serious obstacles" on the road to peace.

In Khartoum, Mr. Arafat told Sudanese political and trade union activists on Monday "the recent American air piracy was directed not only against the PLO and Egypt, but also against the whole Arab Nation," the national news agency SUNA said.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived in Khartoum on Saturday for talks with Sudanese leaders, planned to address an anti-American rally on Tuesday which would protest to the U.S. embassy about the interception of the Egyptian plane.

U.S. plays down rift

(Continued from page 1)

But a statement voiced "total disagreement" over the way the affair was concluded. Mr. Spadolito told reporters that, despite a prior request for consultation, he had only heard about Abu Abbas' departure from television.

The PLO official was put aboard a Belgrade-bound airliner in a cloak-and-dagger operation on Saturday evening.

Meanwhile, a magistrate investigating the hijacking of the Achille Lauro said Monday the four arrested Palestinians were probably not the only ones involved in the attack.

"We presume that others were involved, accomplices in Italy, but we don't know who at this time," Dolcino Favi, a deputy prosecutor in Siracusa, said during a press briefing.

Mr. Favi said investigators suspect that the four Palestinians had been enrolled in Italian universities, but that was still being checked out.

He was asked about reports that magistrates in Genoa, where the Achille Lauro left Oct. 3, believed the command was composed of at least six other people besides the arrested men and are preparing new indictments.

"We have no information about that," he said.

However, he said there might be some connection between the hijacking and a police raid about two weeks ago on a Rome house where a number of false passports were discovered. He gave no other details about the raid.

The four arrested men were carrying false passports, Mr. Favi said, but he refused to say from what country.

Italian police have also been investigating a possible connection with the case and the arrest in Genoa of an Arab caught arriving from Tunis with two false passports.

Magistrates from both Siracusa and Genoa are conducting the investigation until a court rules on who has jurisdiction.

Mandlikova leads Czechs to Federation Cup title

NAGOYA, Japan (R) — Hana Mandlikova improved her already impressive Federation Cup record Monday when she steered Czechoslovak to their third successive triumph in the women's team tennis competition.

Following Helena Sukova's three-set victory over American Elise Burgin Sunday, Mandlikova gave the Czechoslovaks a winning 2-0 lead by beating Kathy Jordan 7-5, 6-1 in a match interrupted by rain with the score 3-0 in the second set.

The U.S., 11 times winners but missing Martina Navratilova, who started in Czechoslovakia's first success in 1975, Chris Evert Lloyd and Pam Shriver, scored a consolation victory when Burgin and Jordan beat Regina Marsikova and Andrea Holikova 6-2, 6-3 in the doubles.

Although Sukova put the Czechoslovaks on the road to victory by beating Burgin 6-3, 6-7, 6-4 in the opening singles, Mandlikova

emerged as the major force in the competition by stretching her unbeaten cup run to 15 matches since 1983.

Mandlikova, who beat Lloyd and Navratilova in successive rounds to win the U.S. Open last month, now boasts an overall Federation Cup record of 25 wins — the same number as Billie Jean King — and four defeats.

At 23, Mandlikova, winner of the Australian Open in 1980 and the French title the following year, has both the talent and time to attack the Federation Cup records of Briton Virginia Wade (36-19) and Lloyd (28-0).

Mandlikova has proved this year she now possesses the con-

sistency to mount a serious threat to Navratilova and Lloyd's domination of the women's game.

She also showed new-found determination in Nagoya, especially in the semifinal against Bulgaria, when, after Sukova had been beaten 6-3, 7-6 by 16-year-old Katerina Maleeva, Mandlikova fell a set behind to Manuela Maleeva.

But Mandlikova knuckled down, swept through the next two sets and was in inspired form when she teamed with Sukova to beat the Maleeva sisters 6-3, 7-6 in the decisive doubles.

Mandlikova has always been one of the most precious talents in the game, but all too often her resolve or nerve have cracked under pressure.

However, she has been in a more relaxed mood of late and summed up her Federation Cup display by saying: "It was fun... I enjoyed playing this week."

IOC to discuss ways of helping Mexico recover from earthquake

LISBON (R) — Olympic officials meeting here this week will consider ways to help Mexico recover from last month's earthquake, Olympic sources said Monday.

Mario Vasquez Rana, president of the Mexican National Olympic Committee, is to submit a report on conditions in Mexico during a five-day meeting of the executive board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) starting Tuesday.

IOC sources said the board was expected to discuss means of helping the Mexican authorities, including a possible offer of financial aid.

During the Lisbon meeting IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch will also report to the executive board on last week's talks between Olympic officials of North and South Korea on the staging of the 1988 Seoul Games.

North Korea has demanded that the games be shared equally between Pyongyang and Seoul. But the IOC maintained its support of Seoul as the host city and the meeting at the IOC's Swiss headquarters ended without agreement.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

World Cup will be in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The World Soccer Federation has "absolute and total confidence in Mexico" and plans to go ahead with the 1986 World Cup games here as scheduled, despite earthquake damage, its director said Sunday. Joao Havelange of Brazil had told reporters last week it would be December before the federation could sufficiently review the damage and decide whether to hold the championship here. Havelange said at a news conference that his early statement had been "perhaps badly interpreted." Completing a four-day tour of the nine cities where the games are to be played, Havelange said he was confident the Sept. 19-20 earthquakes would not reduce the number of international spectators expected in Mexico next year.

Swede outruns field in Athens

ATHENS (R) — Sweden's Mikael Hill Sunday won an international marathon race by nearly three minutes. Hill covered the course from the village of Marathon to the old Olympic stadium in Athens in two hours 26 minutes 20 seconds with Britain's Tony Leonard in second place. Another Briton, veteran Ron Hill, 47, winner of the marathon at the European Championship in 1969 in Athens, finished 25th in 2:43:56. The women's race was won by Britain's Erica Francis in 3:04:30.

Kenyan wins Columbus marathon

COLUMBUS, Ohio (R) — Joseph Nzau of Kenya won the Columbus Marathon Sunday beating American John Tuttle in an exciting sprint to the finish. Nzau ran the race in two hours, 15 minutes, 23 seconds and beat Tuttle by just two seconds. Michael Muboyi of Kenya finished third, more than two minutes behind Nzau, with a time of 2:17:36. The women's competition was dominated by Britons, who swept the top three places. Running in her first marathon, British national cross-country champion Paula Fudge won with a time of 2:35:11. Her twin sister Ann Fudge Ford finished second at 2:36:14. Olympian Sarah Rowell was third at 2:36:40.

Wadkins cards 3rd PGA victory

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida (R) — Lanny Wadkins charged from five strokes back with a brilliant nine-under-par 63 to edge fellow-Americans Scott Hoch and Mike Donald by one stroke and win the \$400,000 PGA World Classic Sunday. Wadkins scored his third tournament victory of the season with a 72-hole score of 21-under-par 267. The 35-year-old Wadkins recorded an eagle three on the par-five fourth hole to start his move to the top. He toured the back nine in a scorching six-under-par 30 to overtake Hoch, the third-round leader, and Donald. The victory also put Wadkins into the lead for the U.S. PGA's Player of the Year award. "Fifteen years from now the money I win will be all gone," Wadkins said. "However, things like the Player of the Year award will last forever."

Chess masters vie for place in world championship

MONTPELLIER, France (AP) — Soviet grandmaster Artur Youssoupov took the first, provisional, lead in the candidates' competition for the next world chess championship late Sunday, with three second-round matches adjourned until Tuesday.

Youssoupov was the first of the 16 contenders to win a match after the first-round draws, with a brilliant game against Jesus Nogueiras of Cuba. Nogueiras lost his queen on the 17th move and resigned three moves later.

Soviets Mikhail Tal and Andrei Sokolov drew after 15 moves. Yasser Seirawan, U.S., had a strong early position, against Kevin Spraggett of Canada but the match was drawn at the 26th move.

Jan Timman of The Netherlands drew with Alexander Tchernine of the Soviet Union after 42 moves. Swiss Victor Korchnoi and Britain's Nigel Short drew after 45 moves, having once adjourned the game.

Three games were adjourned a second time until Tuesday. Zoltan Ribli, Hungary, is in a strong position against Soviet Alexander Beliavsky. The latter, despite making an error on move 24, continued to fight on, the game being adjourned after 58 moves. Rafael Vaganian and fellow Soviet Vassil Smyslov, and Lajos Portisch, Hungary, against Boris Spassky, France, are expected to be draws.

Soviets win five golds in wrestling

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — The Soviet Union won five of the ten available gold medals at the World Freestyle Wrestling Championships that ended here Sunday, but athletes from countries as diverse as Cuba and Iran won other medals.

The United States topped such strong wrestling nations as Bulgaria, Iran and East Germany. Bill Sherr of the U.S. topped Hassan Mohebbi of Iran 7-4 in the final of the 90-kilo division.

But Raul Cascaret won Cuba's first world title, scoring the biggest upset in the tournament as he beat 3-1 American Olympic champion Dave Schultz in the final of the 74-kilo division.

At the medal-awarding ceremony, Mohebbi refused to accept the silver medal and another Iranian, Ali Reza Soleimani, rejected a diploma for sixth place in the 130-kilo division.

In response, the World Wrestling Federation disqualified the two Iranians "for improper behaviour" and Dudziak thus became silver medal winner, while Kamen Tomov was subsequently awarded bronze.

Earlier, in the 52-kilo division, Valentin Yordanov of Bulgaria won gold by defeating 8-2 his Soviet opponent Minatulla Dabov. In the fight for bronze, Joe Gonzales of the United States lost to Mitsuo Sato of Japan, who subdued the American with a technical touch at 4:47 minutes.

Century-old English Football League threatened by revolutionary forces

By David Lacey

LONDON — The Football League is in its 98th year. Until this week it was looking forward to its centenary, to the banquets and birthday cards, and perhaps a message from the Queen.

However, as things stand at the moment the League may not reach this milestone, or if it does will only stagger there, as someone once put it, sans eyes, sans teeth, sans spurs, sans everything. If the five major First Division clubs break away and take enough associate members of their cabal with them, then the game's oldest league will indeed face "mere oblivion."

The reasons for the imminent confederacy are clear enough. All attempts to rejuvenate the Football League by trimming away the dead wood and making the fixture list more acceptable to a shrinking audience have been resisted by the innate conservatism of the bulk of its members.

There has been talk of restructuring the League for at least 25 years. The difference now lies in the strength of purpose of the five leading clubs — Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Tottenham and Arsenal — who are so determined to have their own way that if necessary they will start their own competition, perhaps as early as next season.

They are unlikely to be bought off, as they were in 1983, by a new television agreement, the Canon sponsorship and the once-and-for-all decision to allow clubs to keep all their home gate receipts.

A number of factors have combined to bring matters to a head. The indefinite UEFA ban on English clubs competing in Europe as a result of the Brussels tragedy, and the absence of soccer on television, have left the clubs staring at one another, or at a desert of empty terraces.

The issues have been simplified. The big clubs realise that the loss of receipts from European matches, and the falling-away of sponsors' cash as a result of the television dispute, will not be recouped through the turnstiles. They have to find a format which can be sold to television and the sponsors, and at the same time, carry constant crowd-appeal.

In a sense the Super League is already here. Last Saturday a total of 118,074 fans, according to official gate figures, watched the matches at Old Trafford, Anfield

and Highbury. The other eight First Division games attracted an aggregate of 108,802.

Last season, First Division attendances rose by a million, but the increase was deceptive, being largely due to the return of Chelsea, Sheffield Wednesday and Newcastle to the higher section. Now the gates are falling even more steeply. Only Manchester United can count on a full congregation.

The most popular concept of a new league has envisaged a First Division of 18 clubs, with 20 or 22 in the Second and the rest regionalised. The 1983 Chester Report is often quoted in this context, although the report's proposals were themselves contradictory, with the League president, Jack Dunnett, publicly dissenting from one of them.

There was never a hope of any of these ideas being accepted by the three-quarters majority needed to get any changes past the club chairmen. The fact that any new suggestions put through normal channels would meet equally stubborn resistance has persuaded the big clubs to go their own way.

Gramham Kelly, the League secretary, has complained about the clandestine nature of their discussions, but given the wheeler-dealing skills of those who would line up against them, skills which often contrast sharply with the achievements of their clubs on the field, the desire for secrecy is not surprising.

But why 18 clubs? This would hardly be more of a Super League than the present First Division, although obviously its members would enjoy far larger slices of the financial cake from television fees and sponsorships than they do now. Then again, a club playing in the league of 18 teams would lose four home fixtures. Would increased receipts from television and sponsorship cover the difference, and would spectator interest be sufficiently stimulated to make the exercise worthwhile?

A real revolution would follow the Scottish example, with an elite division of 10 clubs meeting each other twice as many times as they do now. This might seem monotonous, but the willingness with which the punters turn out to watch Manchester United and, to a lesser extent, Liverpool and Everton suggests otherwise. End of season play-off, along Stanley Cup or Superbowl lines, would guarantee an annual climax, as well as appealing to television and advertisers.

At the same time, a Super League would demand an administrator of proven ability, vast experience and abundant common sense. This immediately and severely limits the field. Several names come to mind, but one stands out above all others — Peter Robinson of Liverpool.

At the moment the revolution is still in the conspiratorial stage. We await the storming of the Winter Palace with interest, particularly to see who remains inside and who emerges to join the comrades in the snow — The Guardian.

Why not adopt the American franchise system? Clubs would be independent, but they would have to fulfil basic requirements regarding playing standards, finance and facilities. They would have to meet certain criteria of spectator comfort, as well as having means to beat the weather, through either artificial pitches or undersoil heating. The franchises would be reviewed regularly, and any defaulting clubs thrown out.

The Big Five are said to have found support from Newcastle, Aston Villa, Manchester City and Southampton. They only need declarations from two or three more clubs to turn the breakthrough movement into a bandwagon. By the New Year it could be a question not of who they can take with them, but how many will be left behind.

Nevertheless, a number of clubs face an awkward predicament. Many have cut their cloth to suit the austerity of the Eighties, trimming their costs to bring down their break-even figures at the turnstiles. Having budgeted for the present League programme, can they afford to risk joining a smaller competition, not to mention losing the Milk Cup?

The rejection by the bulk of the First Division of the ill-conceived Full Members' Cup has shown that at last the realisation is sinking in that the one way not to halt falling gates is to give people more football. Now these clubs have to be persuaded that they can rekindle interest by offering people less.

Ted Croker's offer to run the new competition under the auspices of the Football Association is not surprising. Of course the FA, ever jealous of the League's autonomy, would embrace the newcomer, but it is hard to believe that the clubs, have abandoned the Ottoman Empire, would want to join the Hapsburgs.

At the same time, a Super League would demand an administrator of proven ability, vast experience and abundant common sense. This immediately and severely limits the field. Several names come to mind, but one stands out above all others — Peter Robinson of Liverpool.

At the moment the revolution is still in the conspiratorial stage. We await the storming of the Winter Palace with interest, particularly to see who remains inside and who emerges to join the comrades in the snow — The Guardian.

Ajax seeking to recapture past glories

By Gerald Peterson Reuters

AMSTERDAM — Johan Cruyff, the Dutch soccer maestro who led Ajax Amsterdam and The Netherlands to glory in the 1970s, is finding it difficult to repeat his past successes as he seeks to revive Ajax's style and fortunes.

The Netherlands' greatest ever player, obsessed with the idea he can guide Ajax back among the elite of Europe's top clubs, was appointed technical director in June after a long career spent displaying his skills all over the world.

But, as yet, he has been unable to translate his own delightful artistry as a player into consistently impressive performances from his team in either the Dutch league for the European Cup.

Indeed, the reigning champions have made a poor start to the season by their own standards and lost three of their opening nine league games — as many as some title-winning teams lose in an entire season in the Dutch first division.

Furthermore, their pride suffered a blow last week when they were knocked out of the European Cup by Portuguese champions, Porto, in the first round. It was the fifth time in six years Ajax had failed to reach the second round in Europe.

The old master, who captained Ajax to three successive European Cup wins in the 1970's, is trying to inspire his youthful team to play the enthralling "total football" which took the Dutch to the 1974 and 1978 World Cup finals.

In that fluid system, all the outfield players were capable of interchanging roles regardless of their positions on paper.

Despite the problems and recent setbacks, Cruyff remains confident. He said: "Several of my players have the ability, but it will take time and a lot of hard work to reach perfection."

Cruyff, European Footballer of the Year in 1971, 1973 and 1974, favours attacking football and seems unworried that the Ajax defence has conceded 14 league goals this season.

By contrast, the attack, led by Marco Van Basten, has netted 32 goals — including 24 in a four-match spell against the league's weakest opposition.

But, while often looking well-drilled and sometimes imaginative, the forwards have repeatedly failed to take their chances against the more powerful and


determined sides. Ajax lost 2-1 at Groningen, 4-2 at home to league leaders PSV Eindhoven, and 2-0 away against Porto before arch foe Feyenoord beat them 2-1 at home last weekend.

After the Feyenoord defeat, Cruyff said: "The team played well and the way I wanted them to. We created at least a dozen good scoring chances, so now we have to polish-up the finishing touches."

Van Basten, 20, now in his fourth season with Ajax, is league top-scorer with 14 goals and one of six Ajax players in the Dutch squad to meet Belgium in a World Cup playoff in Brussels next week to qualify for the finals in Mexico.

Such recognition of his players may reflect some credit on Cruyff, but it should be put into perspective by Dutch soccer's continuing position in the doldrums of the club and international game. The sparkling successes of the 1970's have not been recaptured.

This is partly due to the departure of several talented players who have sought fame and fortune with foreign clubs.



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ANNOUNCEMENT

THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY has the duty to inform with deepest regret the death of Former Brazilian President Emílio Garrastazu Médici.

A register of condolences will be opened at the Chancery of the Embassy, Third Circle, from 10:00 a.m. to 14:00 p.m. on the 16th and 17th of October.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4125/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3678/83	Canadian dollars
	2.6555/65	West German marks
	2.9920/35	Dutch guilders
	2.1780/95	Swiss francs
	53.77/83	Belgian francs
	8.0940/90	French francs
	1791/1793	Italian lire
	215.25/35	Japanese yen
	7.9800/900	Swedish crowns
	7.9050/150	Norwegian crowns
	9.6200/300	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	326.80/327.30	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed mixed on profit-taking after a firm start in fairly quiet trading, dealers said. The FTSE 100 reached a record high of 1,036.0 Monday morning before shading to 1,028.8 at 1400 GMT, 1.3 points up on Friday's close. At 1430 GMT Monday the FTSE 100 was down 1.7 at 1,320.6.

Fleet Holdings held an early gain of 15p at 376 after United Newspapers increased offer, valuing Fleet at around £317 million. United Newspapers ended 13p down at 290. Glaxo was 35p off at 1,300 after results at the lower end of expectations.

Government bonds were slightly firmer but trading was slack. Golds firmed with bullion but North Americans were mixed. Cable and Wireless gained a net 10p to 615 ahead of its Mercury subsidiary's deal to connect its network with British Telecom's. British Telecom fell 4p on balance to 187.

Banks closed mostly easier after a firm start with Barclays down 2p at 397 after 402. Insurances ended generally firm but off the highs with Guardian Royal 3p at 668 after 671. Oils were mixed with B.P. 1p off at 540 after 543.

Stores were dull on news U.K. retail sales volume fell a provisional 1.4 per cent in September with Burton 3p lower at 525. Mowlem ended 34p to 314 after interim figures while Westland firmed 10p to 93 on speculative demand.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, OCT. 15, 1985.

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime finds you apt to have poor judgment and with some obstacles in the path of your desires, so maintain your cool and don't try to force an issue.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study your responsibilities well and also your assets so that later you know how to handle everything.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may encounter stubbornness on the part of a partner where some new project is concerned during the day.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get into the hard part of your work today and tonight make better plans for the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Postpone pleasure until the evening when conditions are more favorable. Don't start an argument with your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out of the house early and avoid a possible argument that could bring serious trouble for some time to come.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't criticize a partner during the day or a big battle can ensue. Be very careful in driving and visit good friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you take any risks today, you could make some big financial mistakes. Do nothing that could damage real estate you own.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You want to have your own way exclusively, but if you are forceful you could wind up behind the eight-ball.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Situations that are keeping you from gaining your wishes are getting you down, but handle them individually and wisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may find it difficult to gain some personal goal in the morning, but by evening all is OK.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use care and don't risk higher-ups in any way during the daytime, and then the evening is fine for social fun.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) It is all right to study into new interests during the day, but don't commit yourself to any of them until evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can, upon reaching adulthood, make fine plans that are brilliant and strategic, but it is important to teach to consider the wishes of others so that your progeny does not become self-absorbed.

OPEC unlikely to wield power again before '90s

LONDON (R) — The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has now clearly lost its once-iron grip on the world oil market and is unlikely to regain its former influence before the 1990s, oil industry analysts say.

OPEC's dwindling market power, increasingly apparent since the early 1980s, was vividly brought home to ministers of the production nations when they met in Vienna earlier this month.

Saudi Arabia, once the world's biggest oil exporter, confirmed in Vienna that it had given up its lonely struggle to remain faithful to the 13-nation bloc's price pact, aimed at controlling crude oil prices worldwide.

In the absence of a deal to cut output further, industry analysts concluded that OPEC would be unable to wield its power as a major supplier to set world prices again before the 1990s.

"OPEC has lost the ability to frighten the oil market," one leading broker declared after hearing the outcome.

Set up in 1960 to wrest control over oil prices from the multinationals, OPEC scored its first coup in 1973.

Member states around the Middle East Gulf temporarily cut supplies to Western Europe in the wake of the October war and oil prices shot up fourfold.

It was the first "oil price shock". The second occurred in 1979 when panic buying after Iran's revolution gave OPEC the chance to lift prices again.

It was this second price hike that proved OPEC's undoing. Western economies had already begun to find ways of running on less energy, as well as working on alternatives to oil.

But the 50 per cent increase in oil prices in 1979 hit the world economy hard. Western governments aimed to control prices. The result was worldwide recession — the worst for 50 years.

Demand for energy slumped as both industrialised and developing countries sought to diversify sources of supply.

Alaskan oil flowed faster, output continued to rise from offshore fields in the North Sea between Britain and Norway. The Soviet Union boosted exports to earn hard currency and Mexico found a ready market for more oil in the United States.

For OPEC this spelled a steady erosion of its customer base, despite its price and output pact aimed at holding prices firm. Its share of non-Communist world crude oil output has been more than halved from over 50 per cent at the end of the 1970s.

OPEC crude output dropped earlier this year to 14 million barrels per day (b/d) from 31.5 million at its peak in 1979.

It was Saudi Arabia which bore the brunt of these cuts with its production slumping to a 20-year low of two million b/d, a fifth of its capacity and less than half its OPEC quota.

While Saudi Arabia stood faithfully by official OPEC prices

other members offered clandestine discounts to hold orders.

It was in Vienna that Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani confirmed rumours sweeping the industry that his country had signed deals effectively giving big discounts on the official OPEC price of \$28 per barrel for light Arab crude oil.

The Saudi "netback" deals, which link the price of crude oil to the free-market value of the refined products it yields, marked an end of OPEC's efforts to control world oil prices, according to industry analysts.

"OPEC has decided there's no way it can hold prices any more," a Swiss-based broker told Reuters. Netback deals would probably become standard practice now that Saudi Arabia, the industry giant, had accepted them, he added.

The Vienna meeting confirmed OPEC's apparent inability to reach agreement to wield its only other weapon — production control, analysts and traders said.

The weekly Middle East Economic Survey, which has close Saudi contacts, quoted Sheikh Yamani as telling the Vienna meeting that future OPEC strategy would have to concentrate on output volumes rather than prices as the main tool of market stabilisation.

"That meeting took the focus away from price discussion to where it really belongs — production. OPEC has still got its hand on the valve and that's the ultimate power," said a trader at a major U.S. oil company.

"We still can't do without OPEC oil," one broker said referring to the bloc's current 25 per cent share of non-Communist world output.

If OPEC could discipline itself to produce two million b/d less than the world needed from it, prices would automatically rise by \$10 a barrel, he said.

But few traders and analysts believe OPEC is presently able to use the output weapon efficiently.

In Vienna six members wanted higher quotas, but none of the others was ready to agree to a cut to keep the group's 16 million b/d ceiling intact.

Professor Peter Odell of Rotterdam's Erasmus University considers a \$20-a-barrel oil price, would be OPEC's salvation. At that price oil could compete with coal and gas and undercut nuclear power, he said.

Mr. Paul Spedding of London stockbrokers Grieson Grant said: "OPEC's day will come again, at the latest by the early 1990s." Its oil reserves dwarf those of other oil producers.

Already North Sea output has peaked while the Soviet Union, the world's largest producer, has hit major technical problems exploiting new oilfields deep in Siberia.

Falling non-OPEC output coupled with a gradual revival in demand as the Western world recovers from economic recession would hand power back to the grouping, analysts said.

Bush vows to resist protectionism

PEKING (R) — U.S. Vice President George Bush, in talks Monday with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, vowed to resist protectionist pressures in Congress aimed at slashing textile imports, U.S. officials said.

The vice president spokesman, Mr. Martin Fitzwater, told reporters after the three-hour meeting the talks had been "frank and friendly."

He quoted Mr. Bush as telling Mr. Zhao: "We understand your concern about protectionism, but remember the pressures on the U.S. Congress are tremendous."

"We will try to resist those pressures," said Mr. Bush, who arrived in China Sunday for a six-day visit.

He added that President Reagan was expected to veto legislation such as the Jenkins bill, passed by the House of Representatives last week, which seeks to impose sharp curbs on textile imports from China and other countries.

Mr. Bush added, however, that the United States would take action against "unfair trade practices" and signalled that Japan was a problem country in this regard.

The official New China News Agency quoted Mr. Zhao as telling Mr. Bush that the Taiwan issue remained a major obstacle to the development of Sino-U.S. relations.

Nakasone repeats warning
In Tokyo Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone told the Diet



George Bush



Zhao Ziyang

Monday told the Diet (Parliament) that trade protectionism could lead "down the dark road to global economic recession and chaos."

Mr. Nakasone, in a speech to an opening session of parliament, also said "efforts to stimulate domestic demand are especially important in seeking to eliminate external friction through balanced economic expansion."

Earlier, Mr. Nakasone told visiting U.S. state governors that protectionist legislation of the sort now pending before Congress could hurt the world economy, officials said.

Mr. Nakasone told the gov-

ernors, the officials said, a bill passed by the House of Representatives last week seeking to cut textile imports had adverse psychological effects not only on Japan but also on other Asian countries.

The measure has roused the ire of Asian textile-exporting countries which depend on the American market.

In Seoul Monday South Korean officials said the government planned to send a cabinet-level envoy to Washington to lobby for a veto of the bill.

South Korea and Taiwan have already agreed to work together to counter the measure.

Daimler-Benz bids for AEG

STUTTGART (R) — In a move that would create West Germany's largest industrial concern, leading carmaker Daimler-Benz said Monday it was making an offer for a majority stake in the AEG electrical group.

The two companies announced at a joint press conference here that Daimler-Benz, which has already acquired a quarter of AEG, would offer 170 marks (\$64) a share for further AEG stock to take its stake above 50 per cent.

The cost of a 50 per cent shareholding to Daimler-Benz, now the country's second largest vehicle manufacturer, would be 1.6 billion marks (\$600 million).

Shares in AEG, which have made a comeback since the firm emerged from under the cloud of receivership just over a year ago, were quoted around 181 marks (\$68.30) on Friday just before they were suspended by the stock exchange.

Daimler management board chairman Mr. Werner Breitschwerdt, told the press conference: "The acquisition of AEG is a significant step, moving Daimler-Benz further along the road towards being a high-technology group." He said the deal was subject to the approval of the German Federal Cartel Office.

Daimler, which makes Mercedes trucks and luxury cars, has expanded quickly this year, taking full control of engine maker MTU and a majority stake in the Dornier aerospace group.

The 24.9 per cent stake now owned by Daimler represents new shares offered to the carmaker by AEG at 170 marks each.

West German unions start action week to seek more jobs

BONN (R) — West German unions began an action week Monday, pressuring the government to speed their demands for a big job-creation programme to cut record unemployment.

No strikes are planned by the eight million workers represented by the Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB) trade union federation, but tough slogans already appearing on posters all over the country are intended as a reminder of union power.

Despite its success in slashing inflation to a low of 2.2 per cent and in fostering steady growth, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government has not been able to reduce unemployment, now at 2.3 million, or nine per cent of the work force.

"The net result of three years of economic upswing is 330,000 more people on the jobless rolls," says DGB Chairman Ernst Breit, who hopes the action week will force the government to change its

tight-budget opposition to massive job schemes.

The chancellor is due to address parliament on unemployment on Wednesday, the issue all major parties identify as the main problem on the minds of voters.

However, Mr. Kohl, whose government experienced the country's most serious post-war strike last year when metal workers staged a 10-day walkout, is not expected to change course.

The DGB, which groups 17 unions, plans to stage about 1,000 events, including discussion groups and a nationwide campaign, climaxing in workers rallies in 18 major cities next Saturday.

Mr. Kohl's centre-right government is already fighting back. Key personalities are extolling the boost in buying power won by West Germans by the victory over inflation and are counselling industrial cooperation and patience. However, the government con-

cedes that, as people are entering the job market faster than they are leaving it, no significant fall in unemployment is in prospect.

Employers' federation president, Mr. Otto Esser, told the Bild newspaper Monday that the action week would disturb industrial peace.

"It's a throwback to class warfare when unions claim that employers are happy to live with two million out of work," he said. "We have created 200,000 new jobs since 1984."

The week of action has dimmed the hopes of a new dawn in industrial relations that were raised a few weeks ago when unions, government and employers discussed unemployment at their first tripartite talks in eight years.

According to Mr. Breit, the government simply does not want to listen to the unions' main demand, so the unions will have to resort to shouting.

"That's the point of the week of action," he says.

Industrialists discuss Eureka funding

LONDON (R) — European industrialists and financiers from 18 countries met Monday to discuss private-sector funding and cooperation for the Eureka civilian high-technology programme.

Britain, which organised the one-day conference, has made clear that it does not support using public money for the programme, proposed earlier this year by French President Francois Mitterrand and backed by 18 governments.

Mr. Mitterrand, hoping that Eureka will help Europe to catch

up with U.S. and Japanese high-technology advances, has pledged \$115 million in state funds to the programme for next year.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe addressed the conference, stressing the need to break down obstacles to collaboration between European firms on high-technology projects.

"The conference doesn't seek to hijack Eureka or change its objectives," a Foreign Office spokesman told Reuters. "We have no difficulty with the French approach and reckon that Eureka is

big enough for both of us."

Government sources in Bonn say West Germany plans to propose projects totalling \$2.8 billion in the first stage of Eureka.

"A market-led programme which encourages companies to take the initiative has much to commend it," Britain's Financial Times newspaper commented Monday. "However, other countries may need convincing that Britain's frugal approach is not really due to lack of enthusiasm for Eureka."

THE Daily Crossword by June J. Borit

ACROSS

- 1 Four
- 2 Gordie or Elias
- 3 Detect
- 4 City of seven hills
- 5 HST birthplace
- 6 Biblical weed
- 7 Fruit drinks
- 8 Miles of poetry
- 9 Region
- 10 Deformed body
- 11 Failure
- 12 God of war
- 13 Mel of baseball
- 14 Asail
- 15 Time zone
- 16 Jap. drama
- 17 House pests
- 18 At hand
- 19 Fatuous
- 20 Very selfish person
- 21 Part of a dovetail joint
- 22 Facility
- 23 Existed
- 24 Use a shuttle
- 25 Golf
- 26 Depot abbr.
- 27 High note
- 28 "Gloria"
- 29 Lately
- 30 Out of favor
- 31 Solitary
- 32 Slant
- 33 Semon port
- 34 Over
- 35 Climb
- 36 Chartered
- 37 Sassy
- 38 Dr. peddler
- 39 Desires

DOWN

- 1 Southern accent
- 2 Roping exhibition
- 3 Prayer endings
- 4 Beau
- 5 Dew
- 6 Sloutan
- 7 Sated
- 8 Ingredient
- 9 Wears away
- 10 Type of party
- 11 Rectory
- 12 Mineral stuff
- 13 Celery
- 14 Actor Sam
- 15 Refrain
- 16 Home's port
- 17 Photo developer's aid
- 18 "Over"
- 19 Metal
- 20 Restraining factor
- 21 Dull finish
- 22 Utopian
- 23 Rhapsodic
- 24 Residue
- 25 Expression of triumph
- 26 Wind dir.
- 27 Clammy
- 28 Encouraged
- 29 Go over old stuff
- 30 Residue
- 31 Mystery
- 32 Writers' award
- 33 Synophant
- 34 Money of India
- 35 Oriental
- 36 Boats
- 37 EH
- 38 Large pot
- 39 Command to a horse
- 40 Once around the track
- 41 Single

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

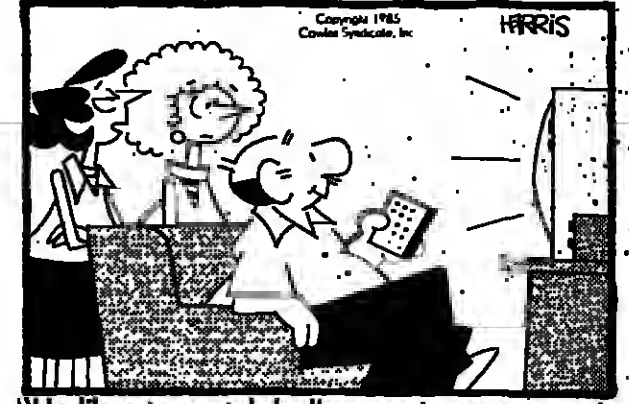


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"He likes to watch ballgames in reverse so he can see overpaid jocks lose money!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WALBY

REGIM

PINKAD

BOLUDE

Answer: A GOOD

Yesterday's Jumbles: YOUNG IDIOT DREDGE VANDAL

Answer: A beauty salon is a place where this might happen—THE LIVING GO TO "DYE"

Belgian government resigns after Martens victory in polls

Premier to form new centre-right coalition

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Agencies) — The Belgian government resigned Monday, paving the way for the formation of a new centre-right coalition, 24 hours after Prime Minister Wilfried Martens' government increased its parliamentary majority in general elections.

The Interior Ministry said final results gave the ruling coalition a total of 115 of the 212 parliamentary seats, a net gain of two.

Mr. Martens went to the Royal Palace Monday morning to formally tender the resignation of his outgoing government to King Baudouin, said Mr. Martens' spokesman, Paul Van Stalle.

It was expected the monarch would ask Mr. Martens to form a new government which could be in place early next month.

On Sunday night, Mr. Martens said it was "clear that the voters voted in favour of continuing the

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Big losers were the Communists, who lost both their parliamentary seats in the legislature for the first time since 1925. Other losers were French and Dutch-speaking Nationalist Parties: The Front Democratic Des Francophones (Democratic Front of French-Speakers) went from six to three seats and the Volksunie (People's Union) lost four of its 20

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Americans win Nobel Medicine Prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The 1985 Nobel Prize in Medicine was awarded Monday to Americans Michael S. Brown and Joseph L. Goldstein for discoveries related to cholesterol metabolism and cholesterol-related diseases.

The Nobel Institute said discoveries by the two Americans had "revolutionised our knowledge about the regulation of cholesterol metabolism and the treatment of diseases caused by abnormally elevated cholesterol levels in the blood."

Dr. Brown and Dr. Goldstein are both on the staff of the Department of Molecular Genetics at the University of Texas in Dallas.

The Nobel Institute said the discoveries of the two had led to new principles for the treatment and prevention of hardening of the arteries.

Mr. Brown and Dr. Goldstein found, Nobel officials said, that cells of the human body have receptors on their surfaces which affect the intake of cholesterol-containing particles called low-density lipoprotein (LDL) circulate in the bloodstream.

The two Americans were credited with research showing that lack of cholesterol receptors figured in cholesterol-related illness.

Reduced numbers of receptors, they found, can lead to increased levels of cholesterol in the blood, which subsequently can accumulate in the body's arteries and cause heart attacks or strokes.

"The discovery of the LDL receptor has broadened our understanding of cholesterol metabolism considerably and explained the mechanism behind familial hypercholesterolemia," the citation said.

"The discoveries made by Brown and Goldstein have drastically widened our understanding of the cholesterol metabolism and increased our possibilities to prevent and treat atherosclerosis and heart attacks," the citation said.

"But their discoveries have even more far-reaching implications," the document said, noting that their research might eventually lead to medication which could increase the number of LDL receptors and thus, in connection with diet changes, reduce the risk of cholesterol-related illness.

"It may one day be possible for many people to have their steak and eat it too," the citation said.

American scientists have captured most Nobel Medicine Prizes alone or jointly since 1975. In 1982, it went to two Swedes, and

in 1984 it was shared by a Dane, a West German and an Argentine.

The medicine prize is one of a series of awards set up in the 1895 will of Swedish dynamic inventor Alfred Nobel and presented since 1901. Since 1901, a total of 59 Americans have won or shared the prize.

This year's prizes each carry a cash award of 1.8 million Swedish kronor (about \$225,000), the highest on record in the 84-year history of the prizes.

It was the second Nobel Prize announced so far this year. The Nobel Peace Prize was given in Oslo last week to an antiwar physicians' organisation. Nobel Prizes in Economics, Physics and Chemistry are to be announced later this week in Stockholm.

The Nobel Prize in Literature is expected to be announced later this week or next week.

Winners of the various awards receive them in Oslo and Stockholm on the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896.

The Nobel Institute which picks the medical winner is made up of six faculty members of Stockholm's prestigious Karolinska Institute, part of one of northern Europe's most respected medical complexes.

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Gandhi starts U.K. visit

LONDON (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was given a red carpet welcome when he flew into London Monday for a two-day official visit to Britain.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher took the rare step of going personally to London's Heathrow Airport to greet the Indian leader on his first trip to Britain since he took office last January.

Police imposed tight security in and around the airport, and troops in armoured personnel carriers and scout cars were seen at crossroads near the sprawling terminal.

A Royal Air Force Honour Guard snapped to attention as Mr. Gandhi stepped from the Air India Boeing 707 with his Indian-born wife, Sonali.

Mr. Gandhi is expected to urge a tougher line from Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on two issues — the activities of Sikh and Kashmiri separatists, in Britain and the adoption of sanctions against South Africa.

The activities of militant Sikhs, who danced in British streets when Mr. Gandhi's mother Indira was assassinated, and Kashmiri separatists, who murdered an Indian diplomat last year, have strained relations between London and New Delhi.

Asian youths clashed with police at the weekend in a London suburb housing one of Britain's largest Sikh communities. Police said they moved in and arrested four people on Saturday after the youths threw stones and bottles at a patrol car in Southall and over-ran another vehicle.

The police said it was not clear what sparked the trouble.

Sikhs living in Britain have pledged mass protests against the Gandhi visit to reinforce extremist demand for a separate Sikh nation in India's Punjab state.

In a move condemned by Sikh leaders in Britain as a publicity exercise to placate Mr. Gandhi, police last week detained at least seven Sikhs and Kashmiris under anti-terrorist laws.

Protest flagship appeals against Tahitian entry ban

WELLINGTON (R) — The anti-nuclear protest flagship Greenpeace maintained course for the French Polynesian capital of Papeete Monday even though Paris has said the vessel is banned from entering territorial waters.

Protest coordinator Gerd Leipold said "France appeared to doubt that the ocean-going tug genuinely needed urgent